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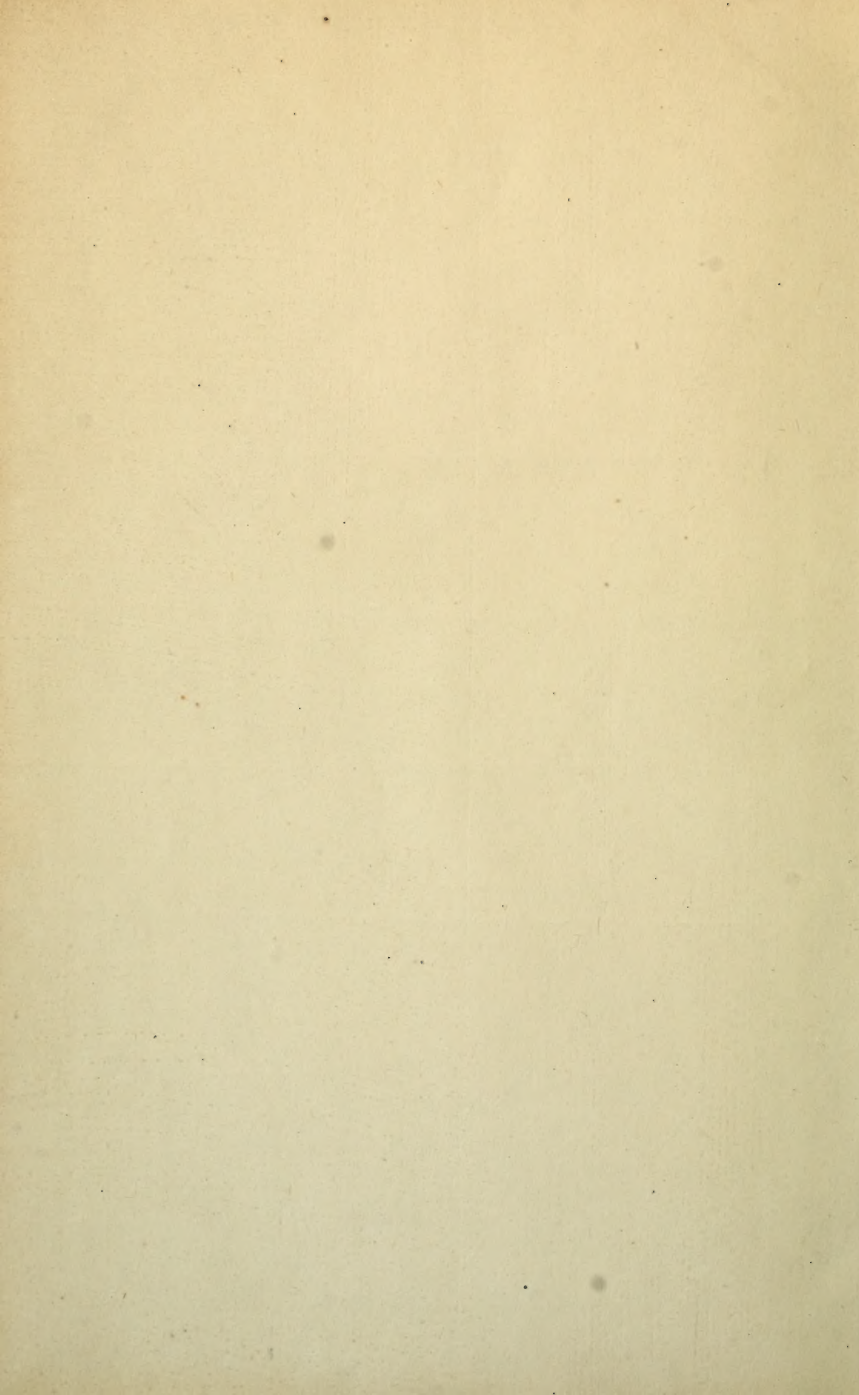








Cyrus, N. Barto,  
Saint Paul,  
848 Fuller, St., Minn.





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HISTORY  
OF  
WINONA AND OLMSTED  
COUNTIES, *Minnesota*

TOGETHER WITH  
BIOGRAPHICAL MATTER, STATISTICS, ETC.

GATHERED FROM MATTER FURNISHED BY INTERVIEWS WITH OLD SETTLERS,  
COUNTY, TOWNSHIP AND OTHER RECORDS, AND EXTRACTS FROM  
FILES OF PAPERS, PAMPHLETS, AND SUCH OTHER  
SOURCES AS HAVE BEEN  
AVAILABLE.

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P R E F A C E.

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IN presenting the history of the Counties of Winona and Olmsted to the public, the editors and publishers have had in view the preservation of certain valuable historical facts and a vast fund of information which without concentrated effort could never have been obtained, but, with the passing away of the old pioneers, the failure of memory, and the loss of public records and private diaries, would soon have been lost. This locality being comparatively new, we flatter ourselves that, with the zeal and industry displayed by our general and local historians, we have succeeded in rescuing from the fading years almost every scrap of history worthy of preservation. Doubtless the work is, in some respects, imperfect; we do not present it as a model literary effort, but in that which goes to make up a valuable book of reference for the present reader and future historian, we assure our patrons that neither money nor time has been spared in the accomplishment of the work. Perhaps some errors will be found. With treacherous memories, personal, political and sectarian prejudices and preferences to contend against, it would be almost a miracle if no mistakes were made. We hope that even these defects, which may be found to exist, may be made available in so far as they may provoke discussion and call attention to corrections and additions necessary to perfect history. The main part of the work has been done by Messrs. Dr. L. H. Bunnell, Dr. J. M. Cole, Hon. O. M. Lord, Prof. C. A. Morey, Gen. C. H. Berry, Hon. W. H. Hill, S. W. Eaton, Esq., and Prof. Sanford Niles, and we believe that no corps of writers could have been found who could have done the subject more

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ample justice. We are also largely indebted to many other well informed citizens of both counties for facts and friendly criticism. All these gentlemen have put the citizens of this part of the state under lasting obligations for rescuing this most valuable matter from oblivion, whither it was surely tending.

The biographical department contains the names and private sketches of nearly every person of importance. A few persons, whose sketches we would be pleased to have presented, for various reasons refused or delayed furnishing us with the desired information, and in this matter only we feel that our work is incomplete. However, in most of such cases we have obtained, in regard to the most important persons, some items, and have woven them into the county or township sketches, so that, as we believe, we cannot be accused of negligence, partiality or prejudice.



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# HISTORY OF WINONA COUNTY.

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## CHAPTER I.

### ABORIGINAL HISTORY.

A HISTORY of the first settlement of Winona county, and especially that of the city of Winona, requires that some notice be given to the Indian tribes that have occupied the territory in which it lies, and of that adjacent, and also that some notice be given to the early efforts of missionaries and explorers to christianize and render the savages obedient to the wants of commerce and of French or English ascendancy. The fur trade was the most important element in the early explorations and settlement of the Northwest, as commerce generally has been in the civilization of the world.

The limited space allowed for this subject admits of but slight mention of the authorities drawn upon, but it is imperative that the aid afforded by the researches of the Smithsonian Institute, of Rev. Edward Duffield Neil, and of Judge George Gale, be acknowledged.

Absolutely nothing is known of the origin of the Indians; neither the mound-builders, nor the more modern tribes; and the naturalist is led to ponder over the suggestion ascribed to Voltaire, "that possibly, in America, while God was creating different species of flies, he created various *species* of men."

Be that as it may, their differentiations in languages and customs, forming different tribes from *more* original stocks, or sources, have been noticed by writers upon ethnology; but aside from the knowledge afforded by their various languages and traditions all is doubt and mystery. Their traditions, even, are so blended with superstitions and romances that the most critical judgment is required in giving credit to *any* portion of them; the more especially to times and distances that extend beyond the Indian's *present* capacity to realize. The territory between the lakes and the Missis-

Mississippi river seems to have been peculiarly fitted by its topography and natural productions for a grand nursery of savage tribes; and there are evidences still remaining in the languages and traditions of the aboriginal inhabitants of this territory, and in the remains of ancient tumuli, stone and copper implements, to warrant this belief. It is probable, as claimed by tradition, that some tribe of Algonquin origin was in possession of this vast territory, and were dispossessed by confederated Sioux, whom tradition says came from the New Mexican frontier. The Chippewa names for different localities, now corrupted, but familiar to us, warrants this belief, if it does not establish the fact. The Sauks and Min-o-min-ees, both of Chippewa origin, say they were the original owners of the whole territory, but they shed no light upon the origin of the mound-builders. Those people may have been drawn to this territory from the far south in search of copper, which to them, probably, was as the gold of California to modern adventurers, and been expelled again by wars, or have voluntarily abandoned their industrious mode of life to become engrafted into the new nations that were springing up around them. Such industrious people would naturally become the prey of more warlike tribes, and the more especially so because of their cranial development, indicating a lack of aggressive character. In support of the claim to have been the *oldest* of modern tribes to occupy the territory, the Chippewa race mention the names given by their ancestors to prominent localities. For example, Michigan, a word of Chippewa origin, is derived from Mich-e-gah-ge-gan, meaning the lake country, or "skye bound waters." Wisconsin is from Gy-osh-kon-sing, the name of its principal river, and means the place of little gulls. Chicago is from Gah-che-gah-gong, a place of skunks. Milwaukee is from Mim-wa-ke, meaning hazel-brush land, equivalent to good land, as upon good land only will this shrub grow. The astringent bark was used as a medicinal remedy, and hence the shrub was known as the good shrub by the Indians.

Galena was known as Ush-ke-co-man-o-day, the lead town; Prairie-du-Chien as Ke-go-shook-ah-note, meaning where the fish rest, as in winter they are still known to do. St. Anthony's Falls was called Ke-che-ka-be-gong, a great waterfall; the Mississippi as Miche-see bee, or Miche-gah-see bee, meaning the great or endless river, or, more literally, the river that runs everywhere; and Lake Superior was known as Ke-che-gun-me, or "the great deep." Only



a few Chippewa names have been given, and those simply to show the familiarity of the Chippewas with characteristics of the various localities named by them and now so familiar to us. It may be added that St. Paul, or its site, was known as *Ish-ke-bug-ge*, or new leaf, because of the early budding out of the foliage below St. Anthony's. It has been a custom of Indian tribes, as with other primitive peoples, to name persons and tribes from peculiarities, from resemblances and from localities.

This rule has been followed in naming the separate tribes of the great Algonquin, Iroquois and *Dah-ko-tah* nations, as well as of those of the Pawnee, *Shosh-o-me*, *Kewis*, *Yu-mah* and *Apachee* or *Atha-pas-can* nations. For many years the records of the early Spanish and French explorers were hidden from the researches of modern investigators, but those of *Marco-de Nica* and of *Coronado*, have come out at last from their mouldy recesses, and documents that had lain in the archives of France for long years have been copied and published to aid the modern historian. In these records of the early explorers, errors in writing and on maps have been made; but they are of considerable value to modern research, because of the light they shed upon the explorations of their authors, and upon some Indian traditions concerning them.

The Chippewa name for Lake Winnepec is *Win-ne-ba-go-shish-ing*, the meaning of which is a place of dirty water. The name *Win-ne-ba-go* was interpreted to mean "stinking water," and the Indians of the tribe were called by the early French explorers the "*Stinkards*," under the impression that they had come from a place of stinking water. Lake Winnebago, in Wisconsin, was supposed to be that locality, but it may be observed here that the water of that lake is not, or was not, before the advent of the white people, impure.

Another reason given for the name was, that they had come from the Western sea or ocean, imagined by the first French explorers to exist in the region of the Mississippi river; and as the Algonquin name *Winnebagoec*, for salt and stinking water, was the same, except in accent, their name was supposed by some to designate a people from the Western ocean. The traditions and legends still existing among the *Winnebagoes* render it probable that they once inhabited the territory adjacent to lake *Win-ne-ba-go-shish-ing* (modernly called *Winnepec*), and probably long anterior to the occupancy by the *Sioux* of the *Mille-Lac* country, as while acknowl-

edging their relationship to the Dah-ko-tah nation, they claim a more ancient lineage. Lieut. Pike refers to the statement of an old Chippewa that the Sioux once occupied Leach Lake; and Winnebago shishing, or the "Dirty Water lake," is but twenty-five miles distant from Leach Lake.

The Winnebagoes call themselves Ho-chunk-o-rah, meaning "the deep voiced people." The Dah-ko-tahs call them Ho-tau-kah, full or large voiced people, because of their sonorous voices being conspicuously prominent in their dance and war songs. Many words in Winnebago and Sioux are very similar. Wah-tah is the Sioux word for canoe; watch-er-ah, the Winnebago. Shoon-kah is the Sioux word for dog; shoon-ker-ah, is the Winnebago name. No-pah is nine in Sioux; Nope is the same numeral in Winnebago.

Numerous other examples might be given of resemblances in their respective languages, but these will suffice. The Chippewa language is wonderfully artistic in construction and rich in suggestions; hence we find many of their words accepted by other tribes as *classic*. Manito-ba, God's land, suggests the idea of a God-given country or Indian paradise. Superior in intellectual capacity to most other tribes, their names seem to have been accepted by others as something better than their own. It is believed by the writer that in this way, probably, the Chippewa name, Winnebago, was given and accepted by the Ho-chunk-o-rah.

The Northeastern Sioux claimed to have owned the Mille Lac country from time immemorial. It seems quite probable that before the "long war," and during some long era of peace, the Winnebagoes may have inhabited the shores of Lake Winnepec, perhaps while the Sioux were at Leech lake. The Kneesteneau, or Chippewas, would have been their neighbors, and from them the Winnebago may have acquired some of the tastes and habits that have so marked his character.

As is still customary with bordering tribes, internarriages were no doubt of frequent occurrence, and in this way, it is conceivable, that the Dah-ko-tah progenitors of the Winnebagoes may have established themselves among some Chippewa tribes, and their offspring have been led to accept flag-mat wigwams, deer, fish and water-fowl in lieu of skin tents and buffalo meat. The Sioux language even differs in each band. Probably, soon after the Spanish conquest of Mexico, many of the red rovers of the plains, as their traditions tell, left for more northern climes. The inviting

prairies of Minnesota, with their countless herds of buffalo and elk, would for a time, at least, content the warlike Sioux, who, provided with some of the "big dogs" (horses) of the Spaniards, could roam at will over these boundless, beautiful plains. It seems also likely that reports of the more than savage cruelty of the Spaniard had gone out, with accounts of the destructive nature of his "deadly thunder"; and if so, a common dread would have kept a superstitious people at peace.

Friendly alliances would most naturally have sprung up among border tribes, and in but a few generations old tribes would have been multiplied into new ones, as appears to have been done during some long era of peace. It is true that the problem may be as readily solved by supposing a state of *civil* war to have existed, but in that case there still must have been long eras of peace, or the race would have become extinct. Be that as it may, the forests of Minnesota and Wisconsin limited the range of the buffalo in these states, and in doing this determined the character of the native inhabitants.

The Sioux soon asserted his savage sway over the whole prairie region west of the Mississippi river, and drove into the forests of Wisconsin his less formidable neighbors. In after years, by combined attacks with firearms, he was driven back by those he had dispossessed of their patrimony, and was content to plant himself upon the western shore of his watery barrier; keeping as neutral ground, for a time, a strip of territory along the east side of the Mississippi.

This region remained neutral but for a short time only, for we find by the accounts of the earliest French explorers that the Dakotah and Algonquin nations were in an almost constant state of warfare when first visited by them, and during the whole time of the French occupation of the territory.

The water-courses afforded ready access to the greater part of the region between the lakes and "Great river," and the dense forests concealed the approach of the wily foes. While the "battle-ground" presented opportunities for a surprise, it was no less serviceable for those who waited in ambush. Many a war party of both nations have been cut off by a successful ambush, and their people left to mourn and plot new schemes of vengeance.

Other tribes suffered by these national animosities, and abandoned the noted theatres of war for more peaceful localities.

The Winnebagoes, according to their traditions, suffered from the incursions of both nations ; and at the time of the first visit of the French at Green Bay they were found there and on Fox river, living in amity with the rice-eaters, or Min-o-min-nee, and other tribes of Algonquin origin, though known to be closely related to the almost universal enemy, the Sioux. During the summer months the Indians on Fox river appeared sedentary in their habits, living in bark houses and cultivating Indian corn and other products of Indian agriculture, or gathering the wild potatoes and wild rice that served them for their winter stores of vegetable food. During seasons of scarcity from frosts, or from disaster, edible nuts and acorns were secured against times of want ; and if famine came upon them in their extremity, they supported life by feeding upon the inner bark of the slippery elm, linden and white pine. Those were happy times for the peaceful tribes, and of sorrow for those in enmity with one another.

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## CHAPTER II.

### EXPLORATIONS.

THE Minominnees, Pottawattamies and the Foxes occupied the water-courses tributary to Green Bay, while the Winnebagoes and the kindred tribes of Iowas, Missouriis, Osages, Kansas, Quapaws, Ottoes, Ponkas and Mandans, possessed the country south and west, bordering upon the territory of the Sauks, the Illanois and the Sioux. This territory seems to have been visited by the French as early as 1634, and in 1660 Father René Menard went on a mission to Lake Superior, where the furs of that region and of Green Bay had already begun to attract adventurous Frenchmen.

Poor zealous Menard, the first missionary, never returned to civilization ; he was lost in the wilds of a Black river forest, separated in a swamp from his faithful follower and assistant Guerin, and all that was ever known of his fate was inferred from the agony of his companion and the priestly robe and prayer-book of the aged prelate found years afterward in a Da-ko-tah lodge.

In 1665 Father Claude Allouez, with but six French voyageurs, but with a large number of savages, embarked from Montreal for



Lake Superior, where he established himself for a time at a place called by the French La Pointe, because of its jutting out into the beautiful bay of Bayfield. Here at once was erected the mission of the Holy Spirit, and the good offices of the priest tendered to the untutored and savage tribes of that vast wilderness. The peaceful mission of Allouez was soon known among the warring tribes, and Sauks and Foxes, Illani and other distant tribes, sent messengers of peace or curiosity to the "Black Gown," and he was admitted to their counsels. In turn, "their tales of the noble river on which they dwelt," and which flowed to the south, "interested Allouez, and he became desirous of exploring the territory of his proselytes." Then, too, at the very extremity of the lake, the missionary met the wild and impassioned Sioux, who dwelt to the west of Lake Superior, in a land of prairie, with wild rice for food, and skins of beasts instead of bark for roofs to their cabins, on the bank of the Great river, of which Allouez reported the name to be Mississippi. To Father Allouez belongs the honor of having first given this name to the world. In speaking of the Da-ko-tahs, he says: "These people are, above all others, savage and warlike. \* \* \* They speak a language entirely unknown to us, and the savages about here do not understand them."

In 1669 the zealous Marquette succeeded to the mission established by Allouez, and his writings give a somewhat florid account of Sioux character. He says: "The Nadawessi (the Chippewa name of the Sioux), are the Iroquois of this country beyond La Pointe, but less faithless, and never attack until attacked. Their language is entirely different from the Huron and Algonquin; they have many villages, but are widely scattered; they have very extraordinary customs. \* \* \* All the lake tribes make war upon them, but with small success. They have false oats (wild rice), use little canoes, and keep their word strictly.

At that time the Dah-ko-tahs used knives, spears and arrow-heads made of stone. About that time, one band of Dah-ko-tahs were allied to a band of Chippewas by intermarriage and commercial relations, and for a time were living in friendly relations with a band of Hurons, who had fled from the Iroquois of New York. Hostilities breaking out between these people and the Sioux, they joined the people of their tribe at La Pointe.

To Nicholas Perrot is due the honor of having first established a trading post on the Mississippi below Lake Pepin, and according



to Neil's History of Minnesota, Perrot inspired the enterprise of La Salle, who sent Louis Hennepin to explore the Mississippi. Hennepin was first to explore the river above the mouth of the Wisconsin, the first to name and describe the falls of St. Anthony, the first to present an engraving of the Falls of Niagara, and it may be added, the first to translate the Winnebago name of Trempealeau Mountain into French. The Winnebagoes call that peculiar mountain Hay-me-ah-chaw, which is well rendered in French as the Soaking Mountain, as it stands isolated from its fellow peaks entirely surrounded by water.

After reaching the Illinois river, La Salle, in 1680, sent Hennepin on his voyage of discovery, with but two voyageur assistants. After reaching the mouth of the Illinois river he commenced the hazardous ascent of the "Great river," traversed before only by Joliette and Marquette, when they descended from the Wisconsin. Hennepin encountered war-parties of Dah-ko-tahs, and was taken a prisoner by them up the Mississippi to St. Paul, to St. Anthony's Falls, and to Mille Lac. While in the land of the Sioux he met Du Luth, who had come across from Lake Superior.

Du Luth obtained the release of Hennepin, and gave him much information of value. Du Luth seems to have been the real discoverer of Minnesota.

Owing to the war inaugurated against the English by Denonville, in 1687, most of the French left the Mississippi, and concentrated for defense under Du Luth at Green Bay.

In 1688 Perrot returned to his trading-post below Lake Pepin, and the year following, by proclamation, claimed the country for France. In the year 1695 Le Seur built the second post established in Minnesota, on an island not far from Red Wing.

During this year Le Seur took with him to Canada the first Dah-ko-tah known to have visited that country. The Indian's name was Tee-os-kah-tay. He unfortunately sickened and died in Montreal.

Le Seur hoped to open the mines known to be on the Mississippi, and went to France for a license. The license to work them was obtained, but Le Seur was captured by the English and taken to England, but was finally released. After overcoming great and renewed opposition, and making one more trip to France, he, in 1700, commenced his search for copper, which was said to be abundant on the upper Mississippi.

Some time in August of this year he entered Fever or Galena river, whose banks were known to the Indians to contain lead, but Le Seur was the first to mention the existence of those lead mines. After many incidents of interest, Le Seur reached the Blue Earth river, and established himself in a fort about one mile below the mineral deposits, from which the Dah-ko-tahs obtained their paint for personal adornment. In 1701 Le Seur took to the French post, on the Gulf of Mexico a large quantity of this mineral, and soon thereafter sailed for France.

At this time, according to Le Seur's journal, there were seven villages of the Sioux on the east side of the Mississippi, and nine on the west.

The Wah-pa-sha band was anciently known as the Ona-pe-ton or falling leaf band, and their village of Ke-ox-ah was upon the prairie now occupied by the city of Winona. Keoxa is difficult of translation, but it may be rendered as "The Homestead," because in the springtime there was here a family reunion to honor the dead and invoke their blessings upon the band.

The site of Winona was known to the French as La Prairie Aux-Ailes (pronounced O'Zell) or the Wing's prairie, presumably because of its having been occupied by members of Red Wing's band. The Americans called it Wah-pa-sha's prairie.

Under the impression that it drew from Canada its most enterprising colonists, the French government for some years discouraged French settlements among the Indians west of Mackinaw; but very soon the policy of the English in estranging the Foxes and other tribes from the French, compelled a renewal of the licenses that had been canceled by the French authorities.

The Foxes had made an unsuccessful attempt upon the French fort at Detroit (known as Wah-way-oo-tay-nong, or the Wy-an-dotte fort), and smarting under defeat they made an alliance with their old enemies the Dah-ko-tahs. This alliance and the enmity of the Foxes made it unsafe for the French to visit the Mississippi by way of Fox and Wisconsin rivers, and for some years the Sauks and Foxes scalped the French traders, and waged war against their Indian allies. The Foxes were finally overcome by the French in 1714, and, capitulating, they gave six hostages as security for a peaceful treaty to be agreed upon in Montreal. Pemoussa, their greatest warrior, and others sent as hostages, died there of small-pox. One who had recovered with the loss of an eye was sent to

Mackanaw to treat, but he escaped and again stirred up the Indians to revolt.

The Chick-a-saws in the south and Dah-ko-tahs in the north made the country exceedingly dangerous to the French. They now became assured that the English were undermining their influence with the Indians, for in a dispatch written about 1726 it is stated that the English "entertain constantly the idea of becoming *masters of North America*." Licenses to traders were once more abundantly issued, and the prohibition against the sale of liquors that had been established by the influence of the pious missionaries was removed. In 1718 Capt. St. Pierre was sent with a small force to reoccupy La Pointe, now Bayfield. The Indians there and at Kee-wee-naw had threatened war against the Foxes. During this year peace was established at Green Bay with the Sauks and Foxes and Winnebagoes, who had taken part against the French. An endeavor was now made to detach the Dah-ko-tahs from friendly alliances with the Foxes, and to secure a treaty of peace between the Chippewas and Dah-ko-tahs, with a promise of renewed trade with them if they remained at peace. To accomplish this purpose, two Frenchmen were sent to the Dah-ko-tahs, but it would appear were not entirely successful, and wintered among the Menominee and Winnebago Indians on Black river. In order to obtain a strategic point it was resolved by the French to build a fort in the Sioux country. On June 16, 1727, the expedition left Montreal, accompanied by missionaries and traders, and on September 17 of the same year reached their destination on Lake Pepin. A stockade was soon built on the north side near Maiden Rock that inclosed buildings for troops, missionaries and traders. The fort was named "Beauharnois," in honor of the governor of Canada, and the mission named "St. Michael the Archangel." The commander of this fort was De la Perriere Boucher, noted for his savage brutality and bigotry. This fort was overflowed in 1728 and its site abandoned. According to Sioux tradition, the prairie on which Winona is now situated was also overflowed at that time. During this year a large force of French and Indians left Canada with the intention of destroying the Sauks and Foxes. On August 17 they arrived at the mouth of Fox river. Before the dawn of day an attempt was made to surprise the Sauk village, but they escaped, leaving only four of their people to reward the French for their midnight vigils. A few days later the French ascended the rapid stream to a Winnebago village, but it also was deserted; still

pursuing their search, on the twenty-fifth they came to a large Fox village, but that too was abandoned. Orders were now given to advance the command to the grand portage of the Wisconsin river; but this move was as fruitless as those which had preceded it, and the expedition returned to Green Bay without results. The Foxes retired to Iowa, and, establishing still closer relations with the Iowas and Sioux, were allotted hunting-grounds to which have been attached some of their names. The Kick-ah-poos and Masco-tens were allies of the Foxes and their *congeners*, the Sauks, and took part with them against the French.

In 1736 St. Pierre was in command at Lake Pepin and regarded the Sioux as friendly, but they still remained objects of suspicion to the French Canadian government, as some of them had attacked an expedition under Veranderie, undertaken at that early period to open a route to the Pacific.

In 1741 the Foxes killed some Frenchmen in the territory of the Illinois, and this so aroused the authorities in Canada that they determined, if possible, to overthrow and completely subdue the Foxes. The officer selected for this purpose was the Sieur Moran or Marin, who had once been in command at Fort St. Nicholas near Prairie du Chien. With the cunning of a savage, Marin placed his men in canoes under cover, as if they were merchandise, and when ordered by the Foxes opposite or near the Butte des Morts to land and pay the usual tribute exacted from all traders passing their village, he opened fire upon the assembled multitude and killed indiscriminately men, women and children. Marin had anticipated the Foxes' consternation and flight, and before reaching the village had sent a detachment of his force to cut them off. There was great slaughter and but a remnant of the village escaped. These people were again surprised by Marin and his forces on snowshoes in their winter encampment on the Wisconsin, and were utterly destroyed.

The Dah-ko-tahs had during this period been at war with the Chippewas, but in 1746 were induced by the French to make peace. Many of the French voyageurs, and in some few instances French officers even, had taken wives, after the Indian method of marriage, from among the Dah-ko-tahs and other tribes, and by this means their influence was still great among their Indian followers. Yet, English influence had commenced its work, and soon after this period French power seems to have begun to wane. The French, however, still continued to make a struggle for existence, if not supremacy.



The Chippewas of Lake Superior showed a disposition to aid the English, and committed a robbery at the Sault St. Marie; "even the commandant at Mackinaw was exposed to insolence." St. Pierre was sent to the scene of disorder. His judgment and courage was undoubted. St. Pierre seized three murderers and advised that no French traders should come among the Chippewas. While the Indians, secured by the boldness of St. Pierre, were on their way to Quebec under a guard of eight French soldiers, by great cunning and daring they managed to kill or drown their guard, and though manacled at the time, they escaped, severing their irons with an axe. "Thus was lost in a great measure the fruit of *Sieur St. Pierre's* good management," as wrote *Galassoniere* in 1749.

Affairs continued in a disturbed state, and Canada finally became involved in the war with New York and the New England colonies. In the West, affairs were for some time in doubt, but the influence of the *Sieur Marin* became most powerful, and in 1753 he was able to restore tranquillity between the French, and Indian chiefs assembled at Green Bay.

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### CHAPTER III.

#### AMONG THE INDIANS.

As the war between the colonies became more desperate, the French officers of experience and distinction were called from the West to aid the Eastern struggle. *Legardeur de St. Pierre* in 1755 fell in the battle upon Lake Champlain, and *Marin*, *Langlade*, and others from the West, distinguished themselves as heroes. After the fall of Quebec the Indians of the Northwest readily transferred their allegiance to the British. In 1761 the English took possession of Green Bay, and trade was once more opened with the Indians. A French trader named *Penneshaw* was sent by the English into the country to the *Dah-ko-tahs*, and in March, 1763, twelve *Dahkotah* warriors arrived at Green Bay, and offered the English the friendship of their nation. They told the English commandant that if any Indians obstructed the passage of traders to their country, to send them a belt of Wampum as a sign, and "they would come and cut them off, as all Indians were their slaves or dogs." After this talk they produced a letter from *Penneshaw*, explaining the object of their visit.



In June Penneshaw himself arrived with most welcome news from the land of the Dah-ko-tahs, bringing with him for the commander of the post a pipe of peace, and a request that English traders be sent to trade with the Sioux of the Mississippi.

A tradition still exists among the Sioux that the elder Wah-pasha, or, as we might say, Wah-pasha the First, was one of the twelve Da-ko-tahs who visited Green Bay. Notwithstanding the English had conquered all the vast territory between the lakes and the Mississippi, and had the proffered friendship of the Sioux to strengthen their influence with all the other Indian tribes, the lines of trade between the territory of Louisiana and the newly acquired territory of the English were not closely drawn, and French influence was sufficiently potent to send most of the furs and peltries to their post at New Orleans. The cause of Indian preference for the French may be found in the latter's gaiety of character, and their ability to conform to the circumstances that may surround them. The Canadian voyageurs and woodmen displayed a fondness for high colored sashes and moccasins that was pleasing to the barbaric tastes of the Indian women, and many of them, joining their fortunes and their honors with those of the French, raised children that were taught to reverence and obey them.

In addition to the influences extended by these ties of blood, the kindness and devotion to their religious faith exhibited by the Catholic missionaries won upon the imaginations of the Indians, and many were won over to a profession of their faith. The tribes which came under their influences looked upon the priests as veritable messengers from God, and called them the "good spirits," believing that they were the mediums only of "good spirits."

All Indians are spiritists, believing implicitly that the spirits of departed human beings take an interest in mundane affairs.

The English, in contrast with French management, had a bluff and arbitrary way of dealing, that, however successful it may have been with eastern tribes, was for a time very distasteful to the Sioux. However, the English learned something in due time by contact with these Indians, and from French politeness; but some years were required before their success with the Sioux was established.

For some years the trade seems to have been abandoned west of Mackinaw, to the French. In the year 1766 Jonathan Carver, a native of Connecticut, visited the upper Mississippi, and his reports

concerning the beauty, fertility and resources of Minnesota aroused some attention to the value of these new possessions.

Carver was a man of keen observation and discernment, and some of his predictions regarding the "new northwest," though scoffed at by some at that time, proved almost prophetic. Carver died in England in 1780. After his death, a claim was set up to a large tract of land said to have been given him by the Sioux, and since known as the "Carver tract."

The claim was investigated after the territory came into the possession of the United States, but it was found to be untenable.

Carver found the Sioux and Chippewas at war when he arrived among them, and was told that "war had existed among them for forty years." Chippewa and Sioux tradition both make the time much longer. It was supposed by the English that the policy of the French traders fostered war between the Sioux and Chippewa nations. Whether this be true or not, it is certain that French influence continued paramount in the country for some years, but as the French that remained after the transfer of the country to the English were inferior in intelligence to those in authority while the French held possession, we are principally dependant upon Indian and mixed blood tradition for what occurred in this vast territory until after the revolution.

Tradition tells us that an Englishman, located near the mouth of the Min-ne-so-ta river, was killed while smoking his pipe, by an Indian named Ix-ka-ta-pe. He was of the M'de-wa-kan-ton-wan band of Dah-ko-tahs.

As a result of this unprovoked murder, no other trader would visit this band, which had already been divided by dissensions, and been driven by the Chippewas from territory formerly occupied east of the Mississippi.

In earlier times this decision of the traders would have been disregarded, but then it was of vital importance to their well-being if not their existence; for they had learned to depend upon guns instead of bows and arrows, and therefore suffered for want of ammunition and other supplies, and were at the mercy of their well-armed enemies. After a grand council it was determined to give up the murderer to English justice.

Accordingly a large party of Sioux, with their wives and the murderer, started for Quebec. In order to avoid their enemies the Chippewas, they took the usual canoe route by the Wisconsin and

Fox rivers to Green Bay. While on this journey, the ridicule of other tribes and their own dissensions caused a desertion of over half of their number, and upon their arrival at Green Bay, but six, of whom some were women, persevered in their intention to go on. When about to start, the murderer also disappeared ingloriously. The leader of the little band of six, then called Wa-pa "The Leaf," told his followers that he himself would go as an offering to the British commander, and if required, would give up his life that his people might not be destroyed. \* On arriving at Quebec, his motive and heroism were both appreciated by the English governor, and the chief was sent back to his prairie home, loaded with abundant supplies of the coveted ammunition and Indian trinkets; and as evidence of his gratitude demanded a British flag to wave over his territory. A gaudy uniform, which included a red cap, common enough in early days, was also given "The Leaf," or as Grignon calls him, the "Fallen Leaf," and as he represented the Dah-kotas as a nation of seven principal bands, he was given seven medals for the respective bands, the one for himself being hung by a tassel cord upon his neck by the English commander at Quebec in person. This noble band of Spartan Sioux wintered in Canada and had small-pox, though in a mild form, and when the navigation of the great lakes was fully opened in the spring they safely returned to their tribe.

Before reaching their village, which had been again divided during their absence, they dressed themselves in their finest apparel, and marching in Indian file at the head of his devoted companions, the chief entered his village with red cap and flag conspicuously displayed.

The chief was hailed, after Indian custom as Wah-pa-ha-sha, or "Red Cap," which, by abbreviation soon became Wa-pa-sha.

Wapasha's successful return and denunciation of the cowardly desertion by his comrades, created another division, which was made permanent by his leaving "Red Wing's" band and removing to the present site of Minnesota City, known to the Wah-pa-sha band as O-ton-we, "the village," probably because of its having been a very ancient dwelling and burial place of Indians.

There, at Gilmore and Burn's valleys, they had their cornfields and summer residences. The band also had a village near Trempealeau mountain and at Root river. At times, when not occupied with field work, they assembled upon the site of Winona (known as

Keoxa) and La Crosse, held their sun and other religious dances, played their games of "La Crosse," or wept over the remains of their dead. Nostrils and sight both reminded them of this sacred duty, as the dead of their band were placed upon scaffolds, and left to fester and bleach in the open air until whitened by time. The bones and burial garments were buried in some secluded spot, or placed under stones in some ancient ossuary. This custom was soon abandoned, and in later years their dead were at once buried. Wa-pa-sha was very proud of his success with the English, and during one of his visits to Mackanaw, stipulated that when visiting English forts, the British commanders should salute him and his staff with *solid* shot, *aimed a little high*.

For much of the foregoing tradition, and very much more of like character, the writer is indebted to Thomas Le Blanc, born in 1824, son of Louis Provosal, or Louis Provencale, an old French trader, whose post was at or near the site of Pennesha's, on the Minnesota river, at Traverse des Sioux, and where, for a time, in ancient days, some of Wa-pa-sha's people were encamped. Thomas was related to Wah-pa-sha, to the Grignons and to Faribault, and was well versed in Indian and French traditions. He spoke French, English and Dah-ko-tah about equally well, and during the four months employed by the writer he was found singularly intelligent and truthful.

The first Wah-pah-sha was grandfather to the one removed from his Winona village by treaty in 1851-3. His memory is still held in great reverence by his descendants and the whole Sioux nation. His deeds of prowess and of benevolence are still preserved in traditions and songs that are sung by medicine-men or priests to the young of the tribe; and even the Winnebago members of the Wah-pa-sha family have learned to sing them.

As a specimen of these rude verses, compelled into rhyme, the following song is given:

#### SONG OF THE DAH-KO-TAHS.

Wah-pa-sha! Wah-pa-sha! good and great brave,  
You rode into battle, made enemies slaves;  
Your war-chief was strong in spirit and frame,  
And many the scalps he hung on *his* chain.  
Your "Red Cap" was known in the East and the West;  
You honored the English, and hoped to be blessed;  
You clothed your red children in scarlet and blue;  
You ever were kind, devoted and true.



The skins of your Te-pee were brought from the plains;  
 Your moccasins dressed with Chippewa brains,\*  
 Your war-whoop saluted by British *real* shot,†  
 Gave peacefullest token they harmed you not.

Then rest thee, brave chieftain, our night has come on,  
 The light has departed from all thou hadst won;  
 Thy people lie scattered on hillside and plain;  
 Thy corn-fields, thy prairie, we cannot regain.

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Notwithstanding the esteem in which his memory is now held, during his lifetime Wah-pa-sha became the subject of dissensions in his tribe, and leaving the cares of chieftainship principally to his son, he roamed at will with a small band of devoted followers of his own tribe, and a few Win-ne-bagoes, one of whom had married his sister Winona, and whose daughter Winona, called the sister of the last Wah-pa-sha (though but a cousin), played so important a part in the removal of the Winnebagoes in 1848. Old Wah-pa-sha finally died at a favorite winter encampment on Root river, and was taken to Prairie du Chien for burial. When news reached the Mississippi, in 1780, that Col. George R. Clark, of Virginia, was in possession of Illinois, and was likely to take possession of Prairie du Chien, a lieutenant of militia, twenty Canadians and thirty-six Fox and Dah-ko-tah Indians were sent with nine bark canoes to secure the furs collected at that post. Wah-pa-sha was in command of the Indians.

The canoes were filled with the best furs, and sent by Capt. Langlade, who had charge of them, out of danger from capture, and a few days afterward the Americans arrived with the intention of attacking the post. During this year, also, a squaw discovered a lead mine near the present site of Dubuque. During 1783-4 the Northwestern Company was organized, but some of the members becoming dissatisfied, an opposition company was formed by Alexander McKenzie and others. After a sharp rivalry for some time the two companies were consolidated.

In 1798 there was a reorganization of the company, new partners admitted, and the shares increased. The new management was thoroughly systematized, and their operations made very profitable.

\*The brains of *animals* are used in dressing deer skins.

†A stipulation at Mackinaw, required a salute to Wah-pa-sha of solid shot when he visited that fort.



In about the year 1785 Julien Dubuque, who had settled at "La Prairie du Chien," and had heard of the discovery by a Fox squaw of a lead vein on the west side of the Mississippi, obtained permission at a council to work those mines, and he established himself upon the site of the city that bears his name.

Dubuque was the *confrere* of De Marin, Provosal, Poquette and others who have prominently figured in the fur trade of that period. The principal traders, however, were Dickson, Frazer, Renville and Grignon. James Porlier, an educated French Canadian, was acting as clerk for Grignon, on the St. Croix, at this time, together with the pompous and eccentric Judge Reaume, afterward so noted at Green Bay.

Porlier, while with Dickson at Sauk Rapids, gave Pike useful information during his visit to the upper Mississippi in 1805, and afterward, moving to Green Bay, acted as chief-justice of Brown county for sixteen years. The treaty of 1783 failed to restore good feeling between England and the United States, as the British posts were not at once surrendered, and this fact served to keep the Indians hostile.

The English pretended not to have authority to give up posts on Indian territory. This excuse was set up in the interest of the English fur traders, but it was finally agreed by the treaty effected by Mr. Jay that Great Britain should withdraw her troops by June 1, 1796, from all posts within the boundaries assigned by the treaty, and that British settlers and traders might remain for one year with all their former privileges, without becoming citizens of the United States. The Northwest Company seized upon this opportunity to establish posts all over Minnesota. They paid no duties, raised the British flag in many instances over their posts, and gave chiefs medals with English insignia upon them. By these means they impressed the savages with the idea that their power still remained supreme, and this impression was a fruitful source of annoyance, and even danger, to Americans, for years afterward. In May, 1800, the Northwestern territory was divided.

In December, 1803, the province of Louisiana was officially delivered by the French to the United States government, and in March, 1804, Capt. Stoddard, U.S.A., as agent of the French government, received from the Spanish authorities in St. Louis actual possession of this important territory, transferring it very soon thereafter to the United States.

It was now deemed expedient that this valuable territory, so recently purchased, should be fully explored, and the Indians be made to acknowledge the full sovereignty of the Federal government. Upper Louisiana, including a large part of Minnesota, was organized immediately after the transfer, and on January 11, 1805, Michigan territory was also organized. Gen. Wilkinson, placed in command at St. Louis, finding that the laws of his government were still unrecognized by the English traders in the new territory, in 1805 sent Lieut. Zebulon M. Pike to expel the traders and bring some of the prominent Indian chiefs to St. Louis. Pike was courteously received and hospitably entertained by the wily Scotch and English traders of that period, but they secretly resolved to disregard and circumvent the policy of the United States government in its proposed management of the Indians.

Pike visited the different tribes along the Mississippi as far up as Sandy and Leech lakes, and made a treaty with the Dah-ko-tahs for sites for forts at the mouth of the St. Croix and Minnesota rivers.

Wintering in the country of the Chippewas, he was enabled to induce them and the Sioux to smoke the pipe of peace, and in the early springtime started with representatives of both nations for St. Louis to conclude articles of friendship and commerce intended for the benefit of these hostile races.

Upon the "Aile Rouge," or "Red Wing," hearing of a secret attempt to shoot Lieut. Pike by a young Sioux, he spoke with vehemence against the character of some encamped at the mouth of the Minnesota river, and offered to bring the would-be assassin to Pike for punishment. Pike found at the Red Wing village an old chief known as Roman Nose, and who had been the second chief of his tribe, desirous of giving himself up for some instrumentality in the death of a trader. The Indian name of the chief was not given, but it was said he had been deposed in consequence of the murder of the trader. Pike thought it impolitic to tell the penitent chief that the matter was beyond his jurisdiction.

On his way down the river Pike speaks of Winona prairie by its French name of "Aile" or "Wing" prairie, and of Wah-pashas encampment below La Crosse, probably at mouth of Root river. He also gives Wah-pasha his French name of La Feuille, "The Leaf." La Crosse he calls De Cross, but when speaking of the game played at Prairie du Chien by Sioux, Fox and Winnebago

contestants, he calls that "a great game of the cross," showing clearly that he did not know the French origin of the name. While at Prairie du Chien, Wah-pa-sha sent for Lieut. Pike, "and had a long and interesting conversation with him, in which he spoke of the general jealousy of his nation toward their chiefs," and wished the "Nez Corbeau," as the French called the "Roman Nose," reinstated in his rank as "the man of most sense in his nation." This conversation shows another noble trait in the character of Wah-pa-sha.

Before leaving Prairie du Chien for St. Louis, Pike established regulations for the government of the Indian trade, but his disappearance from "La Prairie" was the signal for Cameron, Rolette, Dickson and their subordinates to disregard them. Cameron and Dickson were both bold Scotch traders, who seem to have disregarded all regulations and laws, except those of hospitality and humanity. Cameron died in 1811, and was buried on the Minnesota river. Dickson lived to take an active part in the war of 1812, and have few but his ill deeds spoken of in history.

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## CHAPTER IV.

### TROUBLES WITH THE INDIANS.

IN 1807 it was becoming evident that the various Indian tribes in the Northwest were forming a hostile league against the United States government. In 1809, a Nicholas Jarrot made affidavit that English traders were supplying Indians for hostile purposes. Indian runners and envoys from the "Prophet" were visiting the Chippewas, while Dickson, who was the principal trader in Minnesota, held the Indians along the waters of the Mississippi subject to his will.

Gov. Edwards, of Illinois, reported to the secretary of war that "The opinion of Dickson, the celebrated British trader, is that, in the event of a war with Great Britain, all the Indians will be opposed to us, and he hopes to engage them in hostility by making peace between the Sioux and Chippewas, and in having them declare war against us." A principal cause of the great influence of Dickson was his alliance by marriage with the noted Dah-ko-tah chief "Red Thunder," whose sister he had taken as his wife.

In May, 1812, two Indian couriers were arrested in Chicago, supposed to have letters for Dickson. The Indians had anticipated arrest, or else, for greater security, had buried their letters until they should resume their journey, and nothing being found upon their persons they were released. A Mr. Frazer was present when the letters were finally delivered to Dickson, who was then at "the Portage" in Wisconsin, and said the letters conveyed the intelligence that the British flag would soon be flying upon the fort at Mackanaw.

During this period, Cadotte, Deace and others were collecting the Chippewas of northeastern Minnesota on Lake Superior, and at Green Bay. Black Hawk was given command of the Indian forces to be assembled. Dickson gave him a certificate of authority, a medal and a British flag. Before it was known that war had been declared, the American commandant at Mackanaw was surprised by the landing of British troops and traders, and a demand for the surrender of the garrison.

With the British army came well known traders, prepared with goods to trade under the British flag.

An American, taken prisoner at the time, wrote to the Secretary of War: "The persons who commanded the Indians are Robert Dickson, Indian trader; John Askin, Jr., Indian agent, and his son," both of whom were painted and dressed in savage costume. Neill says: "The next year (1813) Dickson, Renville, and other fur traders, are present with the Kaposia, Wah-pa-sha, and other bands of Dah-ko-tahs, at the siege of Fort Meigs."

While Renville was seated, one afternoon, with Wah-pa-sha and the then chief of the Kaposia band, a deputation came to invite them to meet the other allied Indians, with which the chief complied. "Frazer, an old trader in Minnesota, told Renville that the Indians were about to eat an American." \* \* \* "The bravest man of each tribe was urged to step forward and partake." \* \* \* A Winnebago was urging a noted Sioux hunter to partake of the horrid feast, when his uncle told him to leave, and addressed the assembled warriors as follows: "My friends, we came here not to eat Americans, but to wage war against them; that will suffice for us." Trah-pa-sha said: "We thought that you, who live near to white men, were wiser and more refined than we are who live at a distance, but it must indeed be otherwise, if you do such deeds." Col. Dickson sent for the Winnebago who had arranged the intended



feast and demanded his reason for doing so disgusting a deed. His answer sheds no light upon his motive.

The fall of Mackinaw alarmed the people of the Mississippi valley, and they called loudly for the defense of Prairie-du-Chien.

In May, 1814, Gov. Clark left St. Louis for this purpose, and taking possession of the old Mackinaw House, found a number of trunks full of papers belonging to Dickson, one of which contained this interesting extract: "Arrived from below, a few Winnebagoes with scalps. Gave them tobacco, six pounds of powder and six pounds of ball."

A fort was built by the Americans, and named "Shelby." The Mackinaw traders, hearing of this, organized a force under McKay, an old trader, and started in canoes to dispossess the Americans.

The British force was guided by Joseph Rolette, Sr., and, landing some distance up the Wisconsin river, marched to the village and demanded its surrender.

The fort was unfinished and scarcely defensible, but its commander, Lieut. Perkins, replied that he would defend it to the last.

On July 17 the gunboat, under command of Capt. Yeiser, was attacked by the British and Indians. The boat moved to a commanding position above, but was soon dislodged by the enemy, who crossed to the island, where they availed themselves of the shelter of trees.

The boat was then run a few miles below, but was unable to do much execution. For three days Lieut. Perkins made a brave resistance, but was finally compelled to capitulate, reserving the private property of his command.

After placing his prisoners on parole, the British victor escorted them to one of the gunboats, upon which they had but about a month before come up, and, crestfallen at their discomfiture, they were sent back down the river, pledged not to bear arms until exchanged.

Some bloodthirsty savages followed them in canoes, but made no victims.

Lieut. Campbell came up from St. Louis about this time with a small force to strengthen the garrison, and, landing at Rock Island, held a conference with Black Hawk at his village near by. Directly after leaving, news came to Black Hawk of the defeat at Prairie-du-Chien. His braves at once started in pursuit of Campbell's command. A severe encounter was incurred, the lieutenant was



wounded and some of his men killed. During the fight a boat was captured, and the force was compelled to retreat back to St. Louis.

After the capture of Fort Shelly, it was named by the British Fort McKay.

In August, 1814, Maj. Zachary Taylor was sent up with a force in gunboats to punish the Indians who had attacked Lieut. Campbell, but to his astonishment found the British and Indians in possession of Rock Island.

Fire was opened upon Taylor from a battery, and the first ball fired passed through a gunboat commanded by Capt. Hempstead.

Taylor's boats were all disabled and he was compelled to retreat down the river a short distance for repairs. In that engagement one was killed and eleven wounded. With the Americans who came down to St. Louis after the surrender of Prairie-du-Chien was a "one-eyed Sioux," who had aided in the defense of Capt. Yeiser's gunboat.

During the autumn of 1814, in company with another Sioux of the Kaposia band, he ascended the Missouri to a convenient point above, and, crossing the country, enlisted a number of his people in favor of the Americans.

After these professions of friendship, most likely from Sioux nearest St. Louis, he went down to Prairie-du-Chien. Dickson, upon his arrival, asked his business, and snatched from him a bundle, expecting to find letters.

The Indian told Dickson that he was from St. Louis, and would give no further information.

Dickson confined the Sioux in Fort McKay, and threatened him with death if he did not give information against the Americans. The "one-eyed Sioux" was proof against all threats, and he was finally released.

The stubborn savage soon left for a winter sojourn among the river bands, and returning in the spring of 1815 he soon heard the news of peace having been restored.

As the British evacuated the fort they set it on fire, with the American flag flying as it had been run up, seeing which, the "one-eyed Sioux" rushed into the burning fort and saved the flag. A medal and a commission were given him by Gov. Clark, which he treasured and exhibited upon frequent occasions, while rehearsing his many exploits.

These interesting facts taken from Neill's valuable history, relate

to Ta-ha-mie, the "Rising Moose," mentioned by Lieut. Pike in his journal.

He was well known to the writer as the "one-eyed" medicine chief, or priest, of the Wah-pa-sha band of Sioux, though he seemed equally at home with other bands and with the Winnebagoes, all of whom revered him for his bravery and intelligence. His frequent boast of having been the only *American* Sioux during the war of 1812, made him quite famous among the American settlers of Winona county, while the pretentious cock of his stove-pipe hat and the swing of his mysterious medicine-bag and tomahawk-pipe gave him character among his Sioux and Winnebago patrons. His services were in frequent demand; and even now, in 1882, he is spoken of by the older Indians as a great hunter, a great warrior, and a good priest. His more modern name of Tah-my-hay, "the Pike," corrupted into Tom-my-haw by the American settlers, was probably taken by himself as the adopted brother of Lieut. Pike, after an Indian custom. His Winnebago name of Na-zee-kah, an interpretation of his Sioux name, shows clearly that he was known as "The Pike." In regard to the "Tomahawk," that so mystified Dr. Foster, whose interesting and elaborate article is quoted from by Neill, it appears probable, allowing something to imagination, that the father of Lieut. Pike had a tomahawk, the head and handle of which formed a pipe, and that Lieut. Pike had taken it with him on his mission to the Sioux and Chippewas as a calumet or pipe of peace. That, meeting with and forming a close tie of friendship with Ta-ha-mie, the "Rising Moose," he gave him a memento of his everlasting friendship, in peace or war, by presenting the "pipe tomahawk," in such common use along the Canadian border in early days. The writer's memory was in fault as to the *certainly* of its being Tah-my-hay who, of all the Sioux, was so expert in the use of the tomahawk, but R. F. Norton, a merchant of Homer, Minnesota, comes to his aid by relating the following incident:

During the early days, said Norton, my brother, the doctor, and myself, were listening to an old dragoon settler's account of his skill and prowess with the sabre. Flourishing a stick, he told how easy it was to defend himself against the assault of lance or bayonet. Tom-my-haw happened to be present, and understanding more than the valorous cavalryman supposed, or, as proved agreeable, asked the white warrior to strike him with his stick. This the dragoon declined to do, but, being urged, he made a demon-

stration as if intending to strike, when, with a movement of Tom-my-haw's tomahawk, the stick was caught, and whirled to a safe distance. Norton described the tomahawk as a combined hatchet and pipe.

In his youth, Tom-my-hay was a noted hunter, and after the disruption of the Me-day-wa-kant-wan band, joined Red Wing's subdivision, and afterward that of Wah-pa-sha. He told the writer that during one of his hunts, while following the game into a dense Tamarach thicket, a sharp, dry twig entered one eye and destroyed its sight. The vanity of Tah-my-hay was something remarkable, but his devotion to the Americans was vouched for by his tribe.

After the war had closed, Little Crow and Wah-pa-sha, by request of the British command, made a long journey, in canoes, to Drummond's Island, in Lake Huron.

After lauding their valor, and thanking them in the name of his king, the officer laid some few presents before them as a reward for their meritorious services. The paltry presents so aroused the indignation of Wah-pa-sha, that he addressed the English officer, as appears in Neill's History of Minnésota, as follows :

"My Father, what is this I see before me? A few knives and blankets! Is this all you promised at the beginning of the war? Where are those promises you made at Michilimackinac, and sent to our villages on the Mississippi? You told us you would never let fall the hatchet until the Americans were driven beyond the mountains; that our British father would never make peace without consulting his red children. Has that come to pass? We never knew of this peace. We are told it was made by our Great Father beyond the water, without the knowledge of his war-chiefs; that it is your duty to obey his orders. What is this to us? Will these paltry presents pay for the men we have lost, both in the battle and in the war? Will they soothe the feelings of our friends? Will they make good your promises to us?"

"For myself, I am an old man. I have lived long, and always found means of subsistence, and I can do so still!"

Little Crow, with vehemence, said: "After we have fought for you, endured many hardships, lost some of our people, and awakened the vengeance of our powerful neighbors, you make a peace for yourselves, and leave us to obtain such terms as we can. You no longer need our services, and offer these goods as a compensation for having deserted us. But no! We will not take them;

we hold them and yourselves in equal contempt." So saying, he spurned the presents with his foot, and walked away.

The treaty that soon followed at Portage-des-Sioux, won over to the United States the fealty of the Dah-ko-tahs, of Minnesota, and the disgust expressed by "Little Crow" and Wah-pasha on their return to their people, for a time, at least, rendered any further serious difficulty with them improbable.

A period has now been reached in the early exploration and occupation of the territory of the Dah-ko-tahs, when the traditions relating to that era have been merged in the experiences of the writer. It is not merely the vanity of self-assertion that induces him to give his own personal experiences in early pioneer life, but, to connect the past, with the present mode of life in Minnesota, he thinks, may give a clearer impression of the character of the early pioneers than has generally hitherto obtained.

The writer's father, Dr. Bradley Bunnell, was born in New London, Connecticut, in about 1781, and his mother, Charlotte Houghton, was born in Windsor, Vermont, in about 1785. Soon after their marriage they came to Albany, New York, where the eldest sister of the writer was born, and where also was born her husband, Stephen Van Rensselaer. From Albany his parents moved to Homer, New York, where the eldest son, Willard Bradley Bunnell, was born in 1814. Ten years later, 1824, the writer was born in Rochester, New York.

While living in that beautiful city, his father conceived the idea of visiting the Territory of Michigan, and in 1828 went to Detroit. The writer is made sure of the time, by the date of a diploma of his father's membership in the Detroit Medical Society, signed by Stephen C. Henry, president, and R. S. Rice, secretary, and other papers in his possession.

In the autumn of 1831, Bradley Bunnell started for Detroit, with the intention of establishing himself in the practice of his profession, but, delayed by the inclemency of the season, and lack of secure transportation, was induced to open an office in Buffalo.

His practice grew into importance, and during the season of cholera, 1832, the calls for his services to relieve the distressed and dying were almost constant.

The writer had an attack of Asiatic cholera, and passed into what was supposed by consulting physicians to be a collapsed stage of the disease, but the heroic treatment decided upon caused a rally of



the vital forces, and the grim enemy was routed. Although but eight years old at the time of the Black Hawk war, that event, and incidents connected with it, he distinctly remembers. The passage through Buffalo of United States troops on their way to the scene of conflict made a vivid impression that years have failed to eradicate. In 1833 it was thought advisable by the writer's father to move up to Detroit, but meeting with what he thought a better opportunity to establish himself, after a short delay at Detroit, continued on up to Saginaw. There he purchased forty acres of land, that now forms part of that flourishing city. He also bought forty acres that forms the site of Carrolton. Soon dissatisfied with his purchase, and the felicity afforded by howling wolves and croaking bullfrogs in their gambols and songs of love, he left in the sweet spring-time for metropolitan life in the French village of Detroit. His family, on the score of economy, and most likely for want of ready funds, were left in Saginaw to care for the household goods and garden, and the children to cultivate their unfolding intellects at a country school. The writer was called "Pet" by his mother, and was allowed to run at large with Chippewa children (whose tongue was soon acquired), visit their camps, sugar-groves, hunt, fish, swim, skate and fight, to his unbounded satisfaction. His pride was to excel his dusky competitors in all things, and this was soon accomplished, to the admiration of an old Chippewa warrior instructor by his killing two immense bald eagles at the age of eleven. The writer was not then aware of the importance Indians attach to the killing of an eagle.

His mother soon became satisfied that her "Pet" was learning more of the camp than the school, more of the hi-yah, of Indian music, than of that taught by his sisters. After a few *written* notes received from his teacher (confidential), and a vain attempt to take *all* of "his hide off," after the most approved methods of that "*good old time*"(?). It was thought best, upon one of his father's periodical visits, to place the writer in a Detroit "classical school."

At about the age of twelve the *misguided* boy was placed in the Latin school of Mr. O'Brien, of Detroit, who has for many years taught the young ideas "to shoot," fitting many young men with preparatory instruction for useful lives. Mr. O'Brien had been educated for the Catholic priesthood, but discovering some peculiarity in his character (it was thought to be his temper) unsuited to so sacred an office, he opened his Latin school in Detroit.



There can be no doubt of the masterly ability of O'Brien as a teacher; but his *method* was the *old one* he learned in his bible, to "spare not the rod!" So, after a very short term at that school, receiving in the meantime a few *extra lessons* in the manly art of *self-defense*, the writer one day with a ty-yah! left the school and his books never to return.

A new method was then tried with the young savage, and his experiences at the "Bacon Select or High School," of Detroit, are cherished in grateful memory. The writer made rapid progress toward the goal of his ambition, a liberal education, but the "wild-cat mania" had seized upon his father, and as a consequence of losses, sickness and deaths in his family, the boy aspirant had to be made self-supporting.

He was placed in the drug store of Benjamin T. Le Britton, opposite Ben Woodworth's hotel, where he boarded for a time upon his arrival in Detroit, and with that kind and upright gentleman, and his successor in business, he remained until the fires that raged in the wooden buildings of that period had destroyed them. Before the destruction of the American or Wale's Hotel by fire the writer was boarded at that house by his employer, and while there remembers that Henry R. Schoolcraft boarded there also for some considerable time, engaged, probably, upon his Indian works. A Chippewa maiden in attendance upon his invalid wife (who was of mixed blood), though shy, seemed pleased when spoken to in Chippewa, which, boy like, the writer would do.

For a time, at intervals, though young for the work, he was sent by his employer to take orders and make collections in Ohio, Kentucky and Virginia.

It was now thought advisable to engage the writer in the study of medicine. This was distasteful to him, but finally, with his experience as a druggist to build on, in 1840 he went into his father's office in Detroit, and in winter, for want of other resources, attended private clinics and demonstrations.

The reading and confinement involved was too great a change from his former and accustomed habits, but nevertheless, in order not to disappoint the fond expectations of his parents, he worked against his inclinations. He had continued his studies, more or less regularly, when a most welcome letter from his brother, Willard B. Bunnell, decided him, in the spring of 1842, to go to Bay-du-Noquet, where Willard was engaged in the fur trade.

## CHAPTER V.

### PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS.

A POINT has now been reached in this paper where it will be more convenient to use the pronoun of the first person singular, and accordingly I will say that my recollections of the passage of Gen. Scott and his troops up the lakes, in 1832; my intimacy with Indians, annually renewed by their visits to Detroit and Malden, Canada, to receive payments; my acquaintance with all the old-time French fur traders and their offspring, at Detroit, and of the traditions told me by the Snelling boys of their father and their grandfather, Col. Snelling, all conspired to imbue me with a romantic idea of "*going out West*" into the Indian territory that has never yet been realized. At my father's table I had heard Col. Boyer, the Indian agent at Green Bay, speak in glowing terms of that beautiful sheet of water and its rock-bound islands and harbors; and I had also heard the Williams, of Pontiac and Saginaw, as well as my mother's cousin, Dr. Houghton, speak in my presence of Indian traditions relating to silver and copper mines upon Lake Superior. I asked myself then, with boyish fancies, why I could not find one. My dream of the conquest of fortune was at first rather rudely dispelled upon my arrival at my brother's house, but upon mature reflection I decided not to return to Detroit.

I found my brother in very poor health and about to move to the upper Mississippi. The climate of this lovely region, even at that early day, was extolled by the fur traders for its salubrity, and for persons suffering from any form of lung disease it was thought to be almost a specific. Exposures and excesses frequently incident to frontier life had left their marks upon Willard, and I at once decided to aid in his removal to a dryer atmosphere.

Will bought of the Chippewas and fitted out two of their largest bark canoes, and after selling to Mr. Lacy, of Green Bay, all of his stock of furs, and loading his sloop, "The Rodolph," with choice maple sugar, he closed out the remnant of his winter stock of goods to the Indians encamped on the shores of Green Bay, taking in payment their choicest furs and peltries.

Upon his arrival at the city of Green Bay all of the purchases made from the Indians were disposed of at enormous profits, including one of the bark canoes, capable of carrying about four thousand pounds. The other canoe Will loaded with the lighter fabrics of his trade, and, after a few days' delay in procuring a suitable pilot, or guide, started up through the rapids of Fox river.

My brother was accompanied by his wife, *née* Matilda Desnoyer, who was of the old French stock of Desnoyers, myself, a voyager, and an old Menominee Indian pilot, who spoke Chippewa well, and said he belonged to the band of Osh-kosh. The Indian went with us only to the head of the rapids, or foot of Lake Winnebago, as agreed upon, but gave us so clear a description of the route to be followed to Fort Winnebago, that we reached that ancient portage without assistance or difficulty.

At the Buttes du Mort (the mounds of the dead), we found a most intelligent mixed-blood trader, named Grignon, a descendant of the celebrated French officer Langlade, who offered us generous hospitality and inducements to remain with him. I think that the maiden name of my brother's wife, Desnoyer, influenced the old trader upon its incidentally becoming known to him, for he spoke in the highest terms of the Desnoyer family as personal friends of his in troubled times. Grignon told us that "the mounds of the dead" had no relation to the battle with the Fox Indians, fought on the opposite side of the stream, but were ancient tumuli, of which none but the most vague traditions existed.

After a day's rest, we pushed on up through the intricate windings of Fox river.

We were not very heavily loaded, our cargo consisting for the most part of calicoes, red, green and blue cloths, blankets, cutlery, beads, and other baubles, so that upon the whole our trip was a very pleasant one. Some of the Winnebagoes encountered on the way were at first inclined to be somewhat surly, and demurred to the prices fixed upon the goods, and no doubt our firm and non-chalant demeanor was all that prevented an attack from one encampment, where it was intimated a tribute would be acceptable. This intimation angered my brother, and in a choice vocabulary of *blank* Chippewa, which their association with the Menominees of Green Bay enabled them to understand, Will poured into their unwilling ears sounds that utterly silenced them. The Ho-chunk-o-raws, or "Sweet Singers," as some translate their name, changed their

tune and brought out their remaining furs, and would have loaded our frail bark at our own prices, to the top of the gunnels.

Willard expected to sell the furs collected on this journey at Fort Winnebago, but failed to do so, as the enterprising trader and commercial traveler of the St. Louis, or Choteau Company, had already made his annual rounds, and had started for Prairie Du Chien. However, by some unexpected delay, we met La 'bath after we had started from the Portage, and were assured of a sale at "La Prairie."

At the Portage, our canoe and its bulky cargo were transported by wagon to the Wisconsin, down which, after having been "pocketed" a few times in misleading channels, we journeyed triumphantly.

At Prairie Du Chien, we met Charles Le Grave, a merchant, whose family I had known in Detroit, and also the trader La 'bath, both of whom were willing to purchase our furs, but at reduced rates.

We did not quite realize expectations in the final sale of our Indian commodities, for the season had too far advanced for the profitable sale of furs. Consulting with Le Grave, after a long conversation with La 'bath regarding the upper Mississippi, we took their advice and decided to go to the "Soaking Mountain," known now as Trempealeau.

We were told that in the near future the site of the village would be the emporium of trade, and we were assured of a hearty welcome from a hospitable Kentucky pioneer named Reed. By the treaty of November 1, 1837, the Sioux and the Winnebagoes mixed bloods ceded to the United States all their territory on the east side of the Mississippi, and it was supposed by the old traders that town sites would become of great value. Francis La'bath, though a half-breed Sioux, had the energy, if not the business capacity, of a railroad magnate, and as a trader and collector of furs for the American Fur Company, he had become familiar with the Indian territory of the Wisconsin and Mississippi rivers.

In addition to his trips of purchase for the fur company he had personal interests to supervise, for he had established small posts and wood-yards at several points for trade on the Mississippi between Prairie du Chien and Lake Pepin. La'bath's first post was at the head of the "Battle Slough," where Black Hawk was defeated, and it was generally managed by La'bath in person. He had another



small post on the east side of the river, about three miles below La Crosse, that commanded the trade of Root river and vicinity and was an important winter post. Root river was known to the Winnebagoes as Cah-he-o-mon-ah, or Crow river, and not the Cah-he-rah, or Menominee river, as stated by some writers. The Sioux also called Root river Cah-hay Wat-pah, because of the nesting of crows in the large trees of its bottom lands. In the winter of 1838-9 James Douville and Antoine Reed (Canadians) established themselves at Trempealeau in the interest of La'bath, but more to hold the town site than for the purposes of trading with the Indians. A wood-yard was established on the head of the island opposite Trempealeau, and some land cultivated by Douville, but nothing of consequence done to induce a settlement at Trempealeau. La'bath was a cousin of the last chief Wah-pa-sha, and as a half-breed was allowed to establish himself where white men were prohibited from settling.

In accordance with La'bath's privileges he was interested in the half-breed tract at what is now Wabasha, and had petty posts established at every point where trade might be secured. At or near what is now Minnesota City, on the Rolling Stone, Labeth placed his nephew, Joseph Bonette, to trade with the Wah-pa-sha band, and abandoning his lower posts, established one a few miles below the mouth of White-water, at a point known as the Bald Bluff. This post was known to the Winnebagoes as Nees-skas-hay-kay-roh, or White-water Bluff, while his Rolling Stone post was called Nees-skas-hone-none-nig-ger-ah, or Little White-water. The Sioux name for White-water is Minne-ska, and for Rolling Stone E-om-bo-dot-tah. Wat-pah, a river or creek, is sometimes added, though not often, as the creek, like many words in Indian, is to be understood. It should be understood that most of the petty posts established on Indian territory were temporary huts of logs for winter quarters, occupied and again abandoned when no longer serviceable to an ever-changing trade.

A short time previous to the breaking out of the Black Hawk war, a war-party of Sauks attacked an encampment of Dah-ko-tahs on Money creek. The young daughter of the Sioux war-chief Wah-kon-de-o-tah was captured and was being hurried from the camp, when her cries were heard by her father. With a spirit worthy of his name he rushed through the rear guard of the foe, and with his own war-club alone brained three of those who had opposed the rescue of his child. At the sound of his war-whoop his braves



instantly came to his support, and few of the Sauks were left to tell of their defeat. This attack, though so bravely repulsed, alarmed the Wah-pa-sha band, and after the fight they made their principal encampment in Wisconsin, near the Trempealeau mountain, until after the treaty of 1837. Their spring gatherings and dances were still held, however, at Keoxa. This statement was recently given me by a half-blood Sioux and Winnebago relative of Wah-pa-sha, who was in the fight of over fifty years ago on Money creek.

This statement is confirmed by the Grignons, who inform me that their uncle La Bath vacated many petty posts when threatened, and reoccupied them again when the supposed danger was past.

The post at the Rolling Stone was finally abandoned in about 1840. Joseph Borrette, who was then in charge of La Bath's trading post, built a small cabin near the site of the Green Bay elevator, at East Moor, which served as a winter post until about 1843, when it too was abandoned. During the winter of 1842-3 I attended a payment held in the oak grove below where the elevator now stands, and which, I think, proved to be the last one made individually to the Wa-pa-sha band. Mr. Dousman and others from Prairie du Chien were present to look after their interests, but with all their sagacity and experience there were transient traders enough with "spirit water" to gobble up a liberal share of the five-franc pieces then paid the Indians, to the no small disgust of the agent. All after-payments were either paid in goods, or if in coin, the payment was paid in bulk at Fort Snelling. La Bath's relationship to Wah-pa-sha gave him great personal influence, and by his advice James Reed was selected and appointed as their farmer and storekeeper. Soon after Reed's appointment he employed Alexander Chienvere, a son-in-law, to break fifteen acres of land at the Gilmore valley for the band, and Charles H. Perkins, who married Miss Farnam, Reed's stepdaughter, was soon after employed to break ten acres more for Wah-pa-sha on the east side of Burns' creek, on what is now Miss Maggie Burns' farm. When that work was done the chief declared himself well satisfied, and sent the workmen back to Reed.

La Bath himself was employed by the fur company for a number of years, but his nephew, Joseph Borrette, kept up the trade of his uncle, with varying success, until about 1844, when all of the petty posts were abandoned. Those old cabins served as stopping-places in winter for the old mail-carriers, Lewis Stram, Baptist and Alex. Chienvere, and others, and the one on the Prairie island above

Winona was occupied by old Goulah, a French Canadian, who had been for some years in the service of La Bath, but, growing too old for journeyings in the wilderness, was placed in charge of a wood-yard established by La Bath on the island above the Wah-ma-dee bluffs, now Fountain City. But to return. We renewed our supplies of provisions and left "La Prairie" buoyant with hope, a south wind wafting our *bark* up the Me-ze-see-bee, or great river, of the Chippewas. We arrived at La Crosse in the delightful month of June, 1842, and were received by the trading firm of Myrick & Miller in a very courteous manner. They then occupied a mere shanty or small log cabin, but were at work upon the foundation of what afterward grew to a house of fair dimensions, though the architecture was somewhat of the *composite* order. To their original structure they afterward added a hewn block-house, Indian room, and frame addition, and this building, a warehouse, stable, and other outbuildings belonging to the firm, formed the nuclei of La Crosse. There has been some discussion between Mr. Nathan Myrick, of the old firm of Myrick & Miller, relating to the first settlement of La Crosse; and while I concede the possibility of a house having been erected on the prairie before that of Mr. Myrick's was built, I do not believe it, as no evidence of the fact was seen, or the event talked of, by any of the old traders. On the contrary, Reed, who as a soldier had camped on the prairie some years before 1842, spoke of Myrick & Miller as the pioneer settlers of La Crosse. Even though a small cabin had been built before Myrick's arrival, running fires or government steamboats, the crews of which had to provide wood while on their voyages, would have removed every vestige of the fact of the building's previous existence; and besides this, until the ratification of the treaty of November, 1837, the Winnebago Indians would allow no permanent settlement upon their domain east of the Mississippi without a special arrangement with them.

Upon landing at La Crosse, Miller was especially hospitable, and offered to wager us "the skoots" that we would not find another such a chance for settlement as La Crosse afforded, and urged us to remain and help build up a city. We were not then very favorably impressed with the advantages claimed for La Crosse, but thanked Miller for his courtesy and interest in our behalf. Finding us firm in our purpose of visiting the "Rattlesnake hills," as he and Dousman called the Trempealeau bluffs, he volunteered to aid us in

locating a claim, and to break up sufficient ground for a potato-patch should we return after seeing how *immense* the rattlesnakes were up at "Jim Reed's town."

Miller was a man of most generous impulses and strong attachment, but crosses rendered him as stubborn as resistance itself, and this quality subsequently marred his happiness.

After renewed assurances of good fellowship between Willard and Miller, mellowed, no doubt, by a few *private* interviews, we continued on up the broad river, resting in the shade of the forest-clad bluffs, while our light canoe ploughed its course at their base, or stopping at other times where a gushing crystal fountain invited us to blend its limpid waters with our midday lunch.

The Eagle's Nest (the remains of which may still be seen), now known as the "Queen Bluff," because of its surpassing beauty and perpendicular height, had living occupants, as we were informed, that had held possession for many years before. Subsequently they were dispossessed by Reed and some of his Dah-ko-tah friends to celebrate a war-dance. At Catlin's Rocks, now Richmond, we found the red paint discernible that marked Catlin's name; and had it been used to paint one of his savage chiefs, it would have rendered the canvas more imperishable than the rocks that still bear his name.

The wind rising up for a vesper breeze, we put on all sail, and in a short half-hour's run landed at Trempealeau.

James Reed, his son-in-law, James Dauville, Joseph Borrette, and others of the family, came down to the river bank to greet us, and after explaining our purpose in coming, and presenting a letter from Le Grave, Reed invited us to his house, and soon had his whole household interested in our welfare. We were invited to supper, and the manner in which it was done precluded a declination of the hospitality. We retired early, but not until a sheltered place for a winter home had been suggested for us by Reed.

Reed was at our camp early next morning, and leading the way to a most refreshing spring in a little valley above the present site of the village, Willard selected it for a temporary residence, until, as he said, he should be able to learn something of the country. We asked Reed in reference to danger from rattlesnakes, and were told that, to annoy him, or retaliate for disparaging remarks he had made about a miserably poor dog having been used in naming the "Dog Prairie" (Prairie du Chien), Dousman had retorted by calling

his Trempeleau village site "The Rattle-Snake Hills"; and the worst part of it is, said Reed, "he directs all his letters by steam-boat in that way, and nervous people will scarcely land." It was evident to both Willard and myself that Dousman's name was not entirely a fiction, and we adroitly returned to the subject. Reed finally confessed that though he had been there but two years, having established himself in 1840, he had seen quite a number of rattlesnakes; but his hogs, he said, were fast exterminating them, and he hoped they would soon disappear, for, said he, "old hunter as I am, *I step high in going through the ferns and grasses of the bluffs.*" The Winnebago name of the locality, Wa-kon-ne-shau-ah-ga, means the place of rattlesnakes on the river. We were told by Reed that it was the westernmost peak of the range that was called by Hennepin La Montaigne, qui Trompe-a L'eau, and that the name was a translation (probably understood by signs) of the Winnebago name of Hay-nee-ah-chaw, which signified about the same thing, that is, that the mountain was "getting pretty wet." The Sioux called the mountain Pah-ha-dah, "The Moved Mountain." La Crosse was so named by the French, because during peaceful eras the most athletic of the Indian tribes in the surrounding country assembled to play Indian shinny-ball, called Wah-hin-hin-ah, staking horses, blankets, wampum, and sometimes even their squaw slaves, on the issues of their national game. The lower end of the prairie, near Michel's brewery, was the place of assembly; but the game of ball was so common among all Indians, that the name of their game was never given to a locality. At one time, along the foot of the bluffs, back of the sandy portion of the prairie, within the memory even of white settlers, that locality was famous for strawberries, and for this reason the Sioux called La Crosse Wah-zoos-te-cah, meaning the place of strawberries, when La Crosse was designated, but the Winnebagoes, more given to naming localities from peculiarities in the geological formation of their country, called the La Crosse valley to its junction with the Mississippi, E-nook-wah-zee-rah, because of the fancied resemblance of two prominent mound-shaped peaks north of La Crosse to a woman's breasts.

Coon creek was called Wah-keh-le-shan-i-gah, and the mounds situated on Coon prairie were said to have been remarkable for the number of stone and copper implements found in and about them. Black river was appropriately called Minnesap-pah, by the Dah-ko-



tahs, and Ne-sheb-er-ah by the Winnebagoes, both names signifying black-water. The Trempealeau river was called Ne-chaun-ne-shan-i-gah by the Winnebagoes, and Wat-a-Pah-dah, both meaning the overflowing river. The Chippewa was called by the Winnebagoes Day-got-chee, ne-shan-i-ga, meaning the river of the gartered tribe, as they called the Chippewas, and the Sioux called it Haha-tone Wat-pah, meaning the river of the dwellers at the falls (as the Chippewas were known to the Sioux), as it was one of the principal routes of travel to the Chippewa country. Beef slough and Beef river were both called by the Sioux Tah-ton-kah-wat-pah, and by the Winnebagoes Te-chay-ne-shan-i-gah, because of the locality being the last resort of the buffalo east of the Mississippi, though some were seen on Trempealeau prairie at a very late date. The Winnebagoes called the site of Winona, De-cone-uck, and the whole prairie Ose-cah-he-atch-chaw, meaning the prairie village, or its equivalent. The Dah-ko-tahs called it Ke-ox-ah, translated to mean the homestead. The French called it La Prairie Aux-Ailes (pronounced O'Zell), or Prairie of Wing's,—for what reason I have been unable to learn, but as the Wah-pa-sha village was colonized from the Red Wing band, it would appear as if the Indians of the village of Ke-ox-ah might have been known to the early French traders as one of the Red Wing villages.

Ke-ox-ah seems to have a specific meaning, like Tee-pe-o-tah, or O-ton-we, both of which mean a village or collection of tents, but Reed thought "The Homestead" as good an interpretation as could be given the word. Reed was not a very good linguist, and said that he had been frequently misled like Gov. Doty, who, while mapping Fox river, supposed Ne-nah, or water, to be the Indian name of the river, and at once put it down on his map as Ne-nah, or Fox river, and for a number of years it so appeared on the official maps of the state. James Reed informed us that he had been in the United States army under Col. Zachary Taylor at Prairie du Chien, and that during trips to the pineries of the Chippewa, under command of Lieut. Jefferson Davis and others, the beauty of the site of Trempealeau, and the scenery of the river above and below, had so impressed him that he had resolved to settle there when his term of service should have expired. His purpose was delayed for various causes, as he came to Prairie du Chien when quite young, but finally, after many years, Reed had established himself and was in comfortable circumstances. At the time of our arrival Reed had a



large drove of cattle and young horses, which the Indians never stole, but would ride occasionally, to his great annoyance, as they galled the backs of his horses and thus exposed their brutality. The houses erected by Gavin, the Swiss missionary, and his associates, Louis Stram and others, in 1837-8, upon the land now owned by the Trowbridge brothers, east of the Lake of the Mountain, were used by the Winnebagoes and their Sioux relations to catch the horses, as in fly-time the horses would go into the dark log cabins to escape these pests. During the summer of our arrival Reed burnt up the cabins to abate the nuisance, saying that they would never be of further use for missionary purposes. By the treaty of 1837 the Sioux, and the Winnebagoes allied to them, had agreed to remove west of the Mississippi. This agreement was not fulfilled until 1840, the year of Reed's settlement at "Monte-ville," as he used to call his location at times, and this fact will account for the persistent efforts of the Swiss to establish their mission. The Sioux Indians, according to Reed, were very willing to have Monsieur Gavin, Lewis Stram, and others on the east side of the Mississippi, cultivate corn and vegetables to give them (all for the love of God), but they preferred their dog-feasts, sun and scalp dances, to the pious teachings of the missionaries, and after one or two years of hopeless work the missionaries left their Trempealeau mission and farm work in disgust.

Like most Kentuckians, Reed was very fond of horses, and had improved his stock by the importation of a young thoroughbred stallion. The brute was a very intelligent animal, and refused to be ridden by any of Reed's family of boys, who were then quite young. Reed bantered me to ride the horse, saying, "If you will subdue him you can use him as your own."

Reed himself was a good horseman, but thought himself rather old to ride the colt. I accepted the old Kentuckian's kindly offer, and so won upon him by subduing his stallion that a horse was always at my service. The stallion, a beautiful iron-gray, after a term of service, was sold to an officer at Fort Snelling.

James Reed was a remarkable man in many respects, and one of the best types of a pioneer hunter and trapper I ever knew. His first wife was a Pottawatomie woman, by whom he had five children, four of whom are still living; his son John, also a great hunter, died from a gunshot wound accidentally inflicted by his own hand while hunting deer. Reed's second wife was the widow of the trader

Farnam, a partner of Col. Davenport, who was murdered at Rock Island a number of years since. Reed's stepdaughter, Miss Mary Ann Farnam, married Mr. Charles H. Perkins, and is still living near Trempealeau. Reed's last wife was the estimable widow Grignon, mother of Antoine and Paul Grignon, of Trempealeau. Mrs. Grignon was the sister of Francis La Bath, the noted fur-trader, and a cousin to the younger chief Wah-pa-sha. She was first married to a French Canadian named Borrette, to whom was born Joseph Borrette, who so many years managed La Bath's post at the Rolling Stone.

To Mrs. Grignon-Reed and her intelligent family I am much indebted for interesting facts connected with the pioneer settlement of Trempealeau and Winona counties. Mrs. Reed's death was an irreparable loss to her family, and a subject of regret to all who knew her. For several years in succession Reed used the land cultivated by Louis Stram, the first Indian farmer, who had tried to act in concert with his countrymen the Swiss missionaries; and while thanking his stars for finding land already for his use, Reed said that the austere and industrious character of the missionaries rendered them unpopular with Wah-pa-sha and his band.

According to La 'bath, both Stram and the government blacksmith at the present site of Homer were somewhat afraid of the Sioux Indians. Francis du Chouquette, the blacksmith, removed his forge to the island opposite Homer, known as The Blacksmith's Island, and after a raid by a war-party upon the Wah-pa-sha village he left his forge and anvil upon the island and fled to Prairie du Chien. My brother Willard found the anvil, and it was in use for some years in Homer. Upon the site of Du Chouquette's shop in Homer I occasionally find fragments of iron and cinder, and the spring, walled up by him, was intact only a few years since.

The next attempt to proselyte the Sioux and establish in their village at Winona was made by the Rev. J. D. Stevens, who, according to my information, had an appointment of some kind as farmer and chaplain. His efforts were no more successful than had been his Swiss predecessors Louis Stram and Mr. Gavin. Reed used to regard the discomfiture of Protestant missionaries *with resignation*, and say that if the Sioux would not receive the Roman Catholics, with the influence of the French mixed bloods to aid them, it was simply out of the question for Protestants to succeed.

According to Reed and La 'bath, Stevens got lost in an attempt

to reach the camp of Wah-pa-sha, but was found and kindly treated by one of the band, and after an interview with the chief, in which he was told that no white man would be allowed to settle on their territory, Stevens crossed over to the Wisconsin shore opposite Winona and made a temporary shelter for himself and assistants, and then left for provisions and to confer with the authorities. He finally abandoned his attempt to make unwilling christians of heathen savages. La 'bath could probably have changed the ordering of affairs in Wah-pa-sha's counsels, but it was not his interest to do so, and besides, he believed that but one revealed religion existed upon earth, the Catholic, which he professed. The half-breeds were all Catholics; and although they exerted a most potent influence against any Protestant interference with the Sioux, they never interfered with the medicine-men, but joined, like Frontenac, in their scalp-dances and ceremonies. Hence their great influence with them.

In 1841 another attempt to settle upon the site of Winona was made by Thomas Holmes and Robert Kennedy and their families, but they were not allowed to establish themselves on the prairie. After several offers made to Wah-pa-sha, and his refusal to allow the establishment of those men among his people, they opened a trading-post at the Wah-ma-dee, or Eagle Bluffs. This point of trade was for some years known as Holmes' Landing, but is now called Fountain City, from the numerous fountain-like springs that supply its inhabitants. Soon after we arrived at Reed's village of "Monteville," we made the acquaintance of Holmes and Kennedy and their families, and a man in their employ named Smothers. Tom Holmes, the moving spirit of the trio, was the most persistent of pioneers, and had aided in the early settlement of Rockford, and other towns in Illinois, and after leaving the "Landing," commenced the settlement of Shockpay on the Minnesota river.

Holmes' first wife was the sister of Kennedy, who was from Baltimore, and both were accustomed to good living and knew how to prepare it, as they had kept a hotel in Maryland. My brother and myself took dinner at their house while aiding Captain Eaton (of the firm of Carson & Eaton) to drive cattle up the Chippewa. Eaton and a man named Darby had had their horses stolen from them by the Winnebagoes near La Crosse, and were left on foot to drive a large drove of cattle. Near the head of what is now called the Mississippi slough six shots were fired at us by a small party of

Sioux from Red Wing's band, one of which broke a leg of an ox, and the others cut twigs of trees over our heads. While this interesting target practice was going on I ambushed the Sioux riflemen, and but for Captain Eaton and my brother would have killed two of the *war party*, as I had them at my mercy. While relating our experience to Holmes, I observed a peculiar smile and glance of intelligence from his wife, and upon inquiry found that in our ignorance of Dah-ko-tah, Captain Eaton had offered a deadly insult to the Indians while trying to ask our way. However, the Red Wing band subsequently paid for the ox disabled by the Sioux, as I was informed, a year or two afterward.

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## CHAPTER VI.

### WINONA CITY IN EMBRYO.

AFTER considerable exploration of the country, charmed with the scenery and pleased with the soil and water, we decided to build a house in the little valley pointed out to us by Reed, and where we had before built a small cabin. When our determination was made known, Reed, his son-in-law Dauville, and a hired man and team, came at once to aid us, and we soon had raised up a comfortable log house. A year or two after Reed's appointment as farmer and sub-agent of the Wah-pah-sha band, I returned the favor in part by aiding Reed to construct the body of the first house ever built in Winona. The men who aided me in "carrying up the corners" were Joseph Borrette, Reed's wife's son, a nephew of La Bath, James Dauville, Reed's son-in-law, and a Canadian named Goulet, alternately employed by Reed as cattle-grazer, woodchopper and storekeeper. Goulet had been previously employed by La Bath at Minnesota City, knew Wah-pa-sha and his band thoroughly, and was quite a favorite with them. While in Reed's service at Prairie island, he was found by some of the Sioux in a state of intoxication, badly burnt from having fallen in the fire, and died soon after from the effects of his debauch. After the loss of his office by the prospective removal of the Sioux, Reed took down the building and floated the sawed lumber, the valuable portion of it, to Trempealeau, where it was used as an addition to his residence. When he settled upon his



farm at Little Tamarach, he sold his residence and lots in the village to Mr. Ben Healy, and some clear joists and other lumber that had been used in Reed's Winona building now constitute a part of the large wooden store building of Mr. Fred Kribs, the principal hardware merchant of Trempealeau. During a recent visit Mr. Kribs and Antoine Grignon pointed out to me some of the identical joists used in 1844 by us in the construction of Reed's storehouse for government supplies, and which was also used as a residence for himself and men while performing their duties. The body of the house was built of white-ash logs, cut by John La Point and Goulet, Reed's men, and floated from the islands above the present city, and it occupied a spot near the store of S. C. White. It has been supposed by some that the Rev. J. D. Stevens built a temporary abode upon the site of Winona, but there were no inducements offered him to do so, and after his decided repulse by the Wah-pa-sha band, it would have been foolhardy for him to have attempted it. Reed, the Grignons, and the Indians all agree in this, that no missionaries were acceptable to Wah-pa-sha, and when he made his final treaty, he insisted as a condition of the treaty that money alone should be paid him, and that he should be allowed to manage his own affairs without interference of any kind with his band. Some ash logs left by Reed were used in erecting a cabin which was pulled down by Capt. Johnson, and they were finally cut up for firewood.

My brother Willard was much pleased with the game the country afforded, and made frequent excursions with Reed for brook-trout and deer. Reed was a great hunter, but had been too long among Indians to needlessly offend them by slaughtering their game, but as he had a large family he needed large supplies of meat, and it was no unusual occurrence for him and my brother to return from a fire-hunt with three or four red deer in their canoes, or from a fishing excursion with a gross or more of brook-trout. A favorite resort for trout was the spring brook or creek upon which the Pick-Wick mills are situated, and which Willard named Trout creek. The east branch of the creek, where he caught six dozen in about two hours' fishing, he called "Little Trout."

As for deer, there was never a scarcity, for the whole range of bluffs on the Minnesota side, or right bank of the Mississippi, was a favorite resort for them. Here were acorns in plenty, and after they had eaten what satisfied them, the deer went out upon some promontory of bluff to watch their enemies, or descended to some breezy



sandbar to escape the stings of the deer-fly. At nightfall the merciless attacks of gnats and mosquitos drove the deer into the waters of creeks and rivers, and as the bewildering firelight of the hunter noiselessly approached them in the light canoe, the deer fell a victim to his curiosity. The flashing eyes of the deer reflected back the torchlight, and told with unerring certainty where to direct the murderous shot. Outside of the timber, on the borders of the prairies but a short distance from Winona, elk were abundant, and a little farther west buffalo were still to be found quite numerous. We were told by Reed that only a few years previous to our arrival buffalo were seen on Trempealeau prairie and on the big prairie slough at the mouth of the Chippewa river known as Buffalo Slough prairie.

Upon one of my numerous excursions to St. Paul and Fort Snelling I remember seeing Gen. Sibley return from a successful buffalo hunt, and he told me that in times past they had been seen from the knobs almost in sight of his establishment. The General was noted as an expert hunter and scientific rifle-shot, but upon the expedition referred to his delight in the chase was cut short by a sprained ankle received by the fall of his horse.

On the buffalo slough or channel of the Chippewa, around jutting points, deep trails were visible, where buffalo had repeatedly passed to water, and these were in common use by elk and deer at the date of our arrival in the country.

Willard's use of the Chippewa tongue for a time prejudiced his interests as a trader, and he did not embark in the business among the Sioux for some time after his arrival here. In the autumn of 1842 he and a Menominee Indian of great repute went up the Trempealeau river to hunt and trap, and in order to escape observation, and perhaps for convenience, he duplicated his Indian comrade's costume throughout. At that time there was some danger from raiding parties of Chippewas, and Will said that if any should be encountered, his knowledge of their language and his costume, unlike that of the Sioux, would be his safeguard.

Will made a very successful hunt, and as furs were quite high in those days, the skins brought in sold for a considerable sum of money. In an oak grove above the site of Dodge my brother killed three bears in one day. His dog, a very noted one, obtained from Capt. Martin Scott, brought the bears to a stand, and he killed them in quick succession. At Elk creek, named during his hunt, he killed a couple of elk, and the Indian killed some also, but how many I

have forgotten. The Menominee had, during the fall before, caught over fifty beavers, but while upon the hunt with Willard he had almost totally failed to trap that cunning animal. Finding himself outwitted by the beaver, and surpassed in skill as a hunter, the Indian became moody, and began a fast to propitiate the evil influences that he believed were assailing him. Will tried to reassure him, but to no purpose; so, after repeated successes on Will's part, and failures of the Menominee to catch the coveted beaver, they dried their meat, and taking the skins of the elk killed, they stretched them over a willow boat-frame, and thus equipped, their hunting canoes on each side of their skin boat, they descended the Trempealeau just as the ice was about to close the Mississippi. Will returned alone to that once noted resort of beaver, mink and otter, and as the warm spring branches were seldom closed by ice, he was able to catch those valuable furred animals in winter. The beaver skins were at that time worth about \$4 per pound. Game was quite abundant in those early days, for there were no vandal hunters to wantonly destroy it, or if they did the Indians were very likely to *destroy them*. Wild fowl and pigeons nested in the country and raised their broods undisturbed. As for myself, I was no hunter in its proper sense, and having repeatedly missed deer at short range, and standing broadside to me, I determined to learn the only art that would command the respect of the pioneer settlers, or instill a wholesome dread of my marksmanship among the warlike Sioux. My failure to kill deer was more a habit of preoccupation than a want of ability to shoot, for with my rifle, a target gun, I could pick off the heads of grouse or pigeons, and at a mark I had repeatedly excelled Willard and Reed, who were noted among the Indians even as the best hunters on the Mississippi, excepting, perhaps, Joe Rock, of Wah-pa-sha, and Philo Stone, of the Chippewa river. The grand climax, to my chagrin, was reached when Reed accused me of "buck fever." I repelled the accusation with scorn, and aiming at the eye of the next deer I shot at, it fell in its tracks, and for ever after I was able to kill elk, bear and deer, with about equal facility.

In September, 1843, in company with Tom Holmes, Wm. Smothers and my brother, I went up the Trempealeau river for the purpose of hunting elk, but our purpose was frustrated by almost incessant rain while we were on the hunt. A few deer were killed by my brother, who knew the ground hunted over, but I killed nothing but a few pinnated grouse, and a goose which I brought

down with my rifle as it was flying over our camp. Neither Holmes nor Smothers killed anything, but they caught a few beavers and muskrats, the skins of which were not prime. While at the mouth of Elk creek we saw an aerolite pass over our camp, which must have been of unusual size, judging from the attending phenomena. We were afterward informed that several had been seen within the memory of some old Indians, to their great bewilderment.

During the winter of 1842-3 we made some improvements, visited La Crosse, Holmes' Landing, Black River Falls, and made a few trading expeditions to winter encampments of the Sioux and Winnebagoes. Our commerce was carried on principally by the sign-language, sticks often representing numerals above the capacity of the fingers and memory of the Indians to carry. Although the Sioux still called my brother Ha-ha-tone, the Chippewa, he was rapidly gaining their esteem, and his success as a hunter commanded their admiration. As a consequence he was in demand as a trader. I made several trips with him that were very successful, and one with Nathan Myrick that was memorable. Upon one occasion, while Nathan Myrick and myself were attempting to reach Decorah's camp upon the "Broken Gun Slough," a branch of Black river, during an exceedingly cold night in winter, Myrick drove his horse into an air-hole that had been filled by drifted snow, and but for the well-known war-whoop of Decorah, who I had informed of the event upon running to his camp, the horse would have disappeared under the ice, for Myrick was nearly benumbed with the cold when I returned to him with the aid the war-whoop had instantly called to our assistance. A few minutes sufficed for the Winnebagoes to get the horse out of the Mississippi, but being unable to rise to his feet, the horse was dragged to the shore, blanketed and rubbed until warmth was restored, when he was taken to Decorah's camp and a fire built for his comfort by order of the chief. It is due to savage hospitality that the event be recorded.

The Indians of those early times were not always as humane and considerate as Decorah. Many times I have been fired at while passing them in a canoe, simply to gratify their innate dislike of white men. Sometimes my canoe would be hit, but as a rule they would direct their shots so as to skim the water at my side or just ahead of me. To vary their diversion, if they caught me pre-occupied, they would steal upon me and discharge their rifles so near as to give the impression that it was not really all fun that was

intended. Reed assured me that I was daily gaining in favor among the Sioux, and that if I would join in one of their sun-dances and go through the ordeal I might become a chief. He further informed me that I was called Wah-sheets-sha, meaning the Frenchman, a distinguishing mark of their favor, that most likely had saved my scalp from adornment with vermilion and ribbons. Partly to reciprocate their interest in me, and to confirm them in the good opinion Reed had facetiously said they were forming of me, against the advice of the old traders, I pitched two Winnebagoes out of the house when the next proof of their friendship was offered me, and giving the oldest son of Decorah (then head chief by inheritance) a deserved thrashing for a wanton display of his affection, I was not again troubled by any of their ordeals.

Previous to that time Willard and myself had been frequently annoyed, and sometimes angered, by the insults offered us, although aware that our nerve was simply being tested; but we had decided to put an end to all future attempts at Indian levity; and when soon after five rifles of a hunting party were leveled at me when I was unarmed, I told the Indians, who complemented me for not flinching, that it was well for them I had no rifle to aim at them!

Willard and myself were both able, in due time, to make the Indians respect us, but many white people had their traps stolen and their blankets appropriated by the young warriors anxious to win a reputation for bravery.

Early in the spring of 1843 Peter Cameron, a transient trader and fur buyer, came to La Crosse with a kind of keelboat loaded with goods, and after taking possession of an unoccupied cabin, and securing the services of Asa White to manage his affairs in La Crosse, concluded to make a trading voyage up the Mississippi in advance of any steamboat.

Cameron made me a proposition to go with him, allowing me pay for my services, and the privilege of taking, as a venture in trade, certain goods I wished to dispose of, and of a kind he had not in his cargo.

I had almost an intuitive perception of the draft of water, and had picked up considerable of the Sioux tongue. My prospective usefulness induced Cameron to make me a good offer, and I accepted it.

Cameron was a sharp, keen trader, and one of the best judges of furs that ever came up the river.

The boat selected for the voyage up the Mississippi was built for



a supply boat on Black river. It was about forty feet long, seven or eight feet wide, and eighteen inches deep, too low for safety, in Lake Pepin, but the trader was anxious and adventurous, and Dousman, Brisbois, Rice and Sibley had, by astute management, got possession of the trade, not only at Fort Atkinson, but of the entire upper Mississippi. Hence, if any furs were to be purchased by outside traders, they were required to be sharp and adventurous. It was rumored that the Ewing company of Fort Wayne, Indiana, were first crippled and then floored by Rice, who succeeded Dousman in the management of the Choteau company below, while Gen. Sibley had control of the trade at the mouth of the Minnesota river.

The great St. Louis company were also filling up the spaces between their largest stations with smaller traders in their interest. Therefore transient traders had to watch their opportunities, and pounce down upon the tidbits as occasion afforded.

Cameron and myself decided that if we could get safely through Lake Pepin in advance of the steamboat Otter, which it was understood would go through the lake as soon as the ice was out, we would be reasonably sure of making handsome profits on our ventures.

My packages were light, but Cameron piled in barrel after barrel of whisky, pork, flour and heavy articles that greatly endangered our safety.

We started as soon as loaded, taking as pilot an old French voyageur named Le Vecq, and a half-breed that had been employed by James Reed at times, and who was a most excellent hand when on duty. We rigged a large square-sail, and had a long line to run out ahead in swift water, but were so favored by the southerly spring winds that we ran up to the foot of the lake without having had to dip an oar. At the widow Hudson's (now Reed's Landing) we had a good trade, and by my advice Cameron was induced to sell a few barrels of pork and flour to lighten our boat through the lake. As the nights had been clear we determined to make an attempt to go through the lake by moonlight if the wind should go down with the sun. The night came on with weird stillness and gloom, but later on toward midnight the moon came through the clouds and all was changed to brightness.

Le Point had been given permission by Cameron to go down to Rock's, or Campbell's, a short distance below where we were to await his coming. Cameron's orders were imperative to be back



when the wind fell. The wind lulled to a calm, but Le Point did not come; so after many *benedictions* had been left at the camp we started through the lake. The upper air had given token by scudding clouds of fleecy vapor that the calmness of the lower stratum might be broken at any time, but my moral courage was not great enough for me to tell my fears. Cameron was very deaf, and unconscious of danger that did not appeal to him through his sight; and as for Le Vecq, he seemed to have no judgment, and I had lost all faith in him long before we had reached the lake. We coasted along near the north shore until nearing North Pepin we were forced out from the jutting point by ice lodged upon the coast. Here for some time we halted, uncertain what to do, but discovering a narrow opening in the floe, that seemed to extend up to open water, we ventured in, rowing most lustily. We had got almost through the icy strait when I heard a roar as if Dante's inferno had been invaded and the troubled spirits let loose. The noise came gradually nearer, and I was then able to comprehend its cause. It was the ice piling higher and still higher upon the distant point above us, and as the wind had veered around to the westward a few points, the ice was being driven down upon us with great rapidity.

Time is required to tell the story, but not much was needed for the crisis to reach us. I was steering the boat, while Cameron and Le Vecq were rowing. Cameron at first did not heed my warning to prepare for danger, and showed more courage than discretion; but when he saw that we had, as if by magic, become blockaded in front, and that no time was allowed us for retreat, he wrung his hands and cried out, as if in agony of grief, "My God, Bunnell! what shall we do?" I answered: "Face the danger like men; our goods, not ourselves, are threatened; we can run ashore on the ice."

The ice was thick enough to have borne up a horse.

Our worthy bishop (Le Vecq) seemingly was not of my opinion, for dropping upon his knees, he poured forth such a torrent of invective, or invocation, it was uncertain which, as would have moved anything less cold than ice. The ice, however, came crowding on, and I instantly formed a plan to save the boat. All appeals to the devout Frenchman were useless, so I motioned Cameron to my aid, and we drew the boat to the edge of the ice on the north side of the narrowing channel, where we awaited its close. My plan was to tilt up the shore side of the boat as the ice approached to crush it, and thus make use of the overlapping ice to carry us up the



*Yours Sincerely, Wm. A. Phelps.*



inclined plane of ice that the pressure in tilting the boat would form.

I unstepped the mast and placed it in readiness for use as a lever. I placed one oar beside our pilot voyageur, for use when his prayer should end, but all to no purpose—he could not be aroused. I called upon him in most vigorous terms, but in vain. Cameron again offered his services, but I wished him to bale his valuables, and he had scant time to do it ere the floe I knew would be down upon us; besides he was too deaf to hear in the noise, and as the sky was becoming rapidly overcast, sight could not be entirely depended upon. Exasperated beyond further endurance, I jerked our paralyzed guide from his prayerful stupor out upon the ice, and having made him comprehend my intention, he took the oar, the boat was tilted up at the right moment, and all was saved.

We were swept toward the shore with great steadiness and power, but as the ice was smooth, without injury of any kind. Le Vecq was sent to sleep on the land, where we had transferred our lighter goods, but Cameron and myself returned to the boat and slept soundly until daylight, when a storm of wind and rain came to break up the ice, and we were able before nightfall to cross to Bully Wells' (now Frontenac) in safety. It was April, and the wind that had subsided with the fall of rain sprang up again. The lake above was all open, but we were held wind-bound to enjoy the pioneer stories of Mr. Wells, who had established himself with a native woman some years before. Cameron chafed at Wells' recitals, and as night fell upon us, insisted that the wind had died out and that we could go on. Wells told him that if we attempted it we would probably swamp or water-log on Point-no-Point, as we could scarcely clear that iron-bound shore with the wind beating on it as it did at the time. I was able to hold Cameron in check until about two in the morning, when, exasperated by his seeming forgetfulness of the danger we had so narrowly escaped, I told him that if we beached or water-logged, his, not mine, would be the loss, and we started out into the lake to clear the point.

We got well out into the lake and had made a good offing, before we caught the swell, when it was soon made manifest to me that a sail should be set to give us headway, or we would swamp before reaching the point. I proposed the sail, but Le Vecq said to Cameron, "Suppose you hist ze sail, you go to ze dev." Just then a white cap broke over the bow gunnel of the boat, and, taking a



wooden bucket in hand, Cameron gave it to the Canadian, telling him to bail, and without reservation gave me charge of the boat. I called him to the tiller while I bent on the sail, and in a few minutes we were skimming the water like a gull. Dropping a lee-board I had taken the precaution to rig, we crawled off Point-no-point, and rounding into the cove above, landed as daylight appeared. This second display of incapacity in Le Vecq ended his career as principal voyageur, and I was installed as captain and supercargo.

We run on up to Red Wing after breaking our fast, and had already disposed of a large quantity of our heavy goods, relieving our boat the better to encounter the more rapid current, when looking down the river we saw the Otter steaming to the landing. Le Point was on board, so we at once pulled out for the St. Croix. We made a rapid run to Still-Water and Taylor's Falls, and after selling out everything at high prices, Cameron commenced buying furs for cash, having ample supplies of coin for that purpose. Taking our way back leisurely, sometimes floating with the current, at others pulling enough for steerage way, we were able to see and stop at every trading post and Indian encampment on our way down to La Crosse. At Wah-pa-sha's Village, then situated on the high ground back of the river front, west of Main street, we stayed over night. Wah-pa-sha's sister, We-no-nah, (really a cousin) gave us a tent in which to quarter for the night, saying that it was better than our cloth tent, as there was a cold rain falling at the time. In recognition of the woman's hospitality and forethought, I gave her upon leaving in the morning, a six quart pan of flour from our scanty stores, as we had no goods of any kind left. Cameron's subsequent career in La Crosse was unfortunate.

Soon after my return to La Crosse I made a trip to St. Louis, and having an Indian's memory of localities, I was able to fix the course of the Mississippi as far as Galena in my mind. There were but two steamboat pilots in those days for the entire river above Prairie Du Chien, and the services of those were always retained by the American or Chouteau Company, or by the supply steamers of the United States contractors for the Indian and military departments.

Louis Morrow, one of the pilots, was in the full vigor of mature manhood, and a more noble specimen it would be difficult to find; but the other pilot, Lewis De'Marah, was getting old, and his sight was failing him so fast, that, as he himself said, he would soon have to

leave the river to younger eyes. Finding me interested in the course of the channel, De Marah would point it out to me when traveling with him, and in a short time after our first acquaintance he offered to teach and retain me with him on the river. I declined the offer, but my taste and passion for beautiful scenery led me to study the river while traveling upon it. At that time there were but few boats running above Prairie Du Chien regularly, and those of the smallest kind, such as the Rock River and the Otter. The Harris of Galena were so successful with the latter boat, that they soon brought out the Light Foot, the Time and Tide, the Senator, the War Eagle and others in quick succession. The demand for those steamers created a demand for pilots, and Sam Harlow, Pleasant Cormack, Rufus Williams and George Nichols came to the front and proved themselves as capable men as ever turned a wheel. Of the lower river pilots I remember Hugh White of St. Louis as one of the best, and his services were always in demand by the Falcon Cecilia, General Brooke and other boats of the lower trade. Although I was never a member of any legislature, I was as welcome to a free ride on any of the boats named, as a modern "dead head" on any of the subsidized railroads. As there was seldom but one pilot on a boat above Prairie Du Chien who knew the river well, my services were thought to be an equivalent for all the favors shown me, and I could go to St. Louis or St. Paul at will. Upon one occasion I saved De Marah from a blunder at night, similar to the one which happened him while on the Lynx in 1844. That new and beautiful steamer was run out in 1844 on the shore below the Keye's residence by De Marah. The night was inky black, and as the fast-running steamboat steered a little hard, the watchman was called to aid De Marah at the wheel. The Lynx was on her down trip from Mendota and St. Paul, and was running at a fair rate of speed. As they reached the shore at Keye's point, a thunderstorm burst upon them; and as the lightning flashed, the open sky of Pleasant Valley revealed the overflowing water at the lower end of the prairie, and it was mistaken for the Mississippi.

The annual fires had at that time kept down all arbol growths except at the water's edge, and the sandy ridge of prairie between the river and the open water beyond had been overlooked during the momentary flash of lightning. The shadows of the Min-ne-o-way bluffs joined with the dense foliage of the islands and shut out the view to the east. The Lynx was run out several rods upon the

overflowed land before "fetching up," and when she halted, no means at the disposal of Captain Hooper could get her back into the channel. The most of the men were discharged and with a few passengers left in a yawl for Prairie Du Chien.

A few days after, while at work upon ways to slide the boat into river, the Gen. Brooke came steaming up the channel, and was hailed for assistance. After landing and viewing the situation, Capt. Throcmorton decided to go on to Fort Snelling and discharge his cargo, lest some accident might forfeit his insurance, but gave Capt. Hooper assurances of aid on his return. Capt. Throcmorton's great experience suggested work to be done during his absence, and on his return he was enabled to at once pull the disabled boat into the river and take her in tow. The Lynx was docked and lengthened, but she never recovered her speed, and was soon disposed of by her builders. The brick and mortar thrown overboard on the prairie in taking out her boilers has been taken by some for the remains of an old building. A short time since, while strolling on the river bank near the locality of the disaster, I picked from the sandy shore an iron pulley-wheel that probably was dropped overboard by some one on the Lynx, as the deeply rust-eaten wheel indicated that it had been many years in the sand. It may be seen in the museum of the Winona Normal school.

On May 21, 1844, a few weeks before the misfortune happened to the Lynx, Robt. D. Lester, sheriff of Crawford county, Wisconsin, was murdered by a Sioux of Little Crow's band, named O-man-haugh-tay. A fruitless search had been made for the body, which was known to be in the river, but as the boat from the Lynx was descending, on its way to Prairie du Chien, the occupants of the boat found the swollen body in a pile of driftwood, and towed it to La Crosse, where it was buried. Mr. Lester's successor in office, Mr. Lockhart, subsequently had it removed and buried at Prairie du Chien. The murder occurred within the limits of Winona county, opposite the "Queen Bluff," and not "six miles below Reed's Landing," nor "twenty miles from La Crosse," as the historian of La Crosse county has stated.

Mr. Lester was returning from an official visit to the Chippewa mills, and stopped at Trempealeau on his way down in a canoe. His old friend Reed offered him hospitality, which he declined, but accepted a lunch to eat on his way. Lester stopped at a spring rivulet just above the Queen bluff, and while eating his lunch, which

was scanty enough, O-man-haugh-tay, on his way up from La Crosse in a canoe, landed and demanded a part of it. Lester declined a division of his scanty fare, and soon after started on his journey to Prairie du Chien. He had proceeded but a few rods, his back turned to the Indian, when the report of O-man-haugh-tay's rifle, and the body of the sheriff seen falling out of his canoe informed La Bath, who just then came in sight, that a murder had been committed. O-man-haugh-tay jumped into his canoe and fled from La Bath's approach, but not before he was recognized by La Bath, who knew the Indian as a vicious member of Little Crow's band.

La Bath informed the authorities that though he did not see the Indian until after the shot was fired, there could be no doubt but that O-man-haugh-tay had committed the murder. After considerable delay and the use of an escort of troops to capture hostages, the murderer was delivered up and taken to Prairie du Chien. He was kept there in prison for some time, and then, for reasons best known to the authorities of that period, he was taken across the river *in the night* to a landing above McGregor, and was turned loose, as stated by himself to his listening auditors.

James Reed happened to be at Keoxa (Winona) when O-man-haugh-tay arrived. Wah-pa-sha and his band received the Indian with consideration, and while a repast was being prepared for him, Reed listened to the recital of the murderer, who, among his Indian friends, made no concealments of his motives or of the murder. O-man-haugh-tay's conclusion was that the white men of the prairie were good to him, but that they were afraid of him. During his recital, after the Sioux custom, a pipe of friendship was passed around the circle of the tent, and noticing that Reed declined the proffered pipe, O-man-haugh-tay offered it to Reed in person. The audacity of the Sioux fired the old hunter, and although Reed was the only white man present, he struck the pipe to the ground and told the Indian that there was one white man who was not afraid of a dog. That epithet applied to a Sioux was the greatest insult that could be offered, but it was not resented, and O-man-haugh-tay soon took his departure from the village.

Reed was a man of sterling integrity of character, hospitable, and devoted to his friends, and had the murderer of Lester but have made a movement of resentment, his life would probably have paid the forfeit. Reed was a bearer of dispatches in the Black Hawk war, and had good opportunities for observation. He took dis-



patches from Prairie du Chien to the commander of the American forces when no other messenger could be induced to incur the risk, and just after the slaughter at Battle-slough, found a young squaw whose father and mother had been killed. Reed took her with him on his return to Fort Crawford, from whence she was finally sent to her tribe in Iowa. James Reed had a personal acquaintance with all the historical personages of his time, and it is a subject of regret that his family and friends have not recorded more of his experiences in pioneer life. Charles Reed, of "Reed's Landing," should note down his recollections of early times, for the pioneers of Wapasha county have had interesting experiences.

From Reed I learned of the existence in Beef-slough of a large quantity of square timber and shingle logs that had been gotten out under direction of Jefferson Davis and other army officers for use in building Fort Crawford. This timber was said to have been run into the slough under the impression that it was the main channel of the Chippewa river, and as there was no outlet at that time, a large raft of flood-wood and trees obstructing the channel, the lumber was abandoned, and new material prepared and run down the proper channel of the Chippewa. Reed's statement was confirmed to me by one made by James T. Ruth, who had also been a soldier at Fort Crawford. In company with James McCain, a Pennsylvanian, we broke the drifts and opened the channel of the slough, and were well rewarded for our labor.

During the spring and summer of 1843 Philip Jacobs and Dr. Snow put up a trading-house in La Crosse, and the Doctor gave some attention to the practice of medicine. During the month of November of that year he attended my brother's wife at the birth of her son Porter, who was the first white child born in Trempealeau county. My brother's daughter, Frances Matilda Bunnell, now Mrs. Frank Hampson, of River Falls, Wisconsin, who was born at Homer, Minnesota, on February 22, 1850, was the first white child born within the limits of Winona county. There were eight children in Willard Bunnell's family, five of whom are still living.

In 1843 Nathan Myrick was married and brought his wife to La Crosse. Accompanying Mrs. Myrick, as companion and friend, was Miss Louisa Pierson, of Burlington, Vermont. Like most Vermont girls, Miss Pierson was rosy and bright, and as fearless as were "The Green Mountain Boys." If a horse had balked in the

sand of the prairie, her hand would soothe the stubborn brute into forgetfulness, and he would then do his duty. No saddle or bridle was needed to ride her favorite chestnut, and at her call, even the pacing Indian ponies belonging to the firm would amble to her feet. Such a woman among frontiersmen would command admiration, and for a time, at least, her conquests were numerous and her influence beneficial, but soon it became but too evident that her preference had been given to Myrick's partner, H. J. B. Miller, and her whilom admirers turned their inconstant devotion to the native daughters of the realm.

Among the traders of that early period there were some who took squaws for wives, either permanent or after the morganatic fashions of the highly civilized courts of Europe. The usual method of obtaining a help-meet from among the Indians was to pay court to the parents of the maiden desired, and after incidentally informing them of the esteem in which their offspring was held, obtain some approximate idea of her value.

It was also thought advisable to make a present to the medicine-man, with an intimation that if the spirits were friendly to your suit a larger gift might be expected. Two traders of my acquaintance, Asa White and Tom Holmes, formally espoused native queens, and remained faithfully with them and their children through all changes of fortune and civilization that drove them farther and still farther to the frontier. Others, not so true to the parental instinct, *because in higher life*, left their squaw wives, but their children remain in the tribe, cared for and reared by their mothers, vigorous emblems of the love once borne for their fathers.

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## CHAPTER VII.

### INTERESTING INCIDENTS AND CUSTOMS.

IN company with my old-time friend Maj. E. A. C. Hatch, who has quite recently gone to a higher plane of existence, I once attended a virgins' feast at Ke-ox-ah (Winona), presided over by Wah-pa-sha. The whole band was assembled, and after elaborate preparation and sanctification of the ground, by invocations and incense, and sacrificial offerings had been placed for the vestal at the

foot of the altar-pole, Mock-ah-pe-ah-ket-ah-pah, the chief speaker, came forward, and in a sonorous address lauded the virtues of chastity and warned "the denouncers" against the sin of bearing false witness. He also told the young braves that if they knew of the lapse from virtue of any virgin applicant for vestal honors, it was their duty, having in keeping the honor of their tribe, to denounce her. These young men were selected as the flower of Indian chivalry, and in addition to their duties as "denouncers," if occasion required, they guarded the sacred precincts of the assembly from defilement. In this respect Indians surpass white people, as seldom, if ever, has any police regulations to be enforced.

At the conclusion of the chief speaker's address, Wah-kon-de-otah, the great war-chief of the band, addressed his warriors in a quiet and affectionate manner, and told his braves to maintain the truth as sacred, and not offend the spirits of their ancestors. Wah-pa-sha then called for the virgins and matrons to come forth, after the manner still in vogue in Mexico, and for some time there was the silence of expectation. Again the call was made for any virgin to come forward and receive her reward. Two maidens came partly forward, but, upon reaching the line of denunciation, faltered and turned back from modesty or fear, when, at this crisis, We-no-nah, the wife of the speaker, and eldest sister (or cousin) of Wah-pa-sha, motioned to her youngest daughter, Witch-e-ain, a maiden of perhaps fifteen summers, and then in confident tones challenged the assembled throng to say aught, if they could, against the purity of her maiden child.

No answer was given to this challenge, and, after repeated calls by the crier of the assembly, Witch-e-ain came modestly forward and was crowned goddess of the feast that immediately followed. Her head was encircled with braids of rich garniture and scented grass, and presents of colored cloths, calicoes, yarns, beads and ribbons were lavished upon her as the tribe's representative of purity. Her fame went out among the traders, and soon after that vestal feast she became the wife of a distinguished trader. Like a caged bird, she soon pined for her prairie home, and died of consumption ere the leaves of spring bloomed to welcome her coming.

Her mother, We-no-nah, is still living,\* and visits me occasion-

\* Since writing the above We-no-nah has gone to her spirit-home. She died about November 1, 1882, and was buried near Trempealeau. It was she who gave the notice to my brother's wife, Matilda Bunnell, that so excited the war-spirit of the home-guard of Winona county.

ally, always referring to the good old times of the past, when she was young and Wah-pa-sha in power. Her age is not known with certainty, but it is probably at this time, 1882, not less than ninety years. Cho-ne-mon-e-kah, Green-Walk, a half-blood Winnebago brother of the girl, is still living, and the most expert hunter of his band.

Wah-pa-sha intimated, upon one occasion, his approval of any choice I might make of a wife from among his people; and finally, an unusual thing for an Indian maiden to do, Witch-e-ain herself told me of her dislike of the engagement made for her with the trader, and asked me to take her as a free-will offering, saying that as she was the niece of Wah-pa-sha she would be allowed to choose between the trader and myself. I was compelled, kindly, to decline her offer, but assured her of my high esteem and faith in the person chosen for her by her mother. Not Rachael herself, in her highest tragedy, could have thrown from her sparkling orbs such burning glances of hate as were shot forth upon me by Witch-e-ain at my refusal of her love. Such withering but silent contempt can only be expressed by a woman scorned.

Years have passed, and trader and girl are both in the spirit-world, or I would not speak of the incident; but in this article I wish to show that, however different in customs, the Indians still have universal feelings of nature, that make them akin.

At another feast Tom Holmes was so enchanted that he decided at once to make the damsel his wife. His offers were accepted, and, so far as I was able to trace his career, she appeared to have made him a good wife.

Upon another occasion Major Hatch and myself visited Wah-pa-sha's village in Indian disguise, and if our presence was recognized it was not noticed.

Major Hatch was a man of the finest perceptions and most practical judgment. To a stranger he was polite, though taciturn, but to his friends he was open and generous to a fault. The major's descriptive power was quite remarkable. As early as 1859 he gave me a description of the Yellowstone country, that I urged him to have published, as well as some of his experiences among the Wah-pa-sha, Sioux and Blackfeet Indians, with whom he had been intimately associated, as trader and agent, for a number of years. The major was not indifferent to his literary attainments, for he was a close student, but his reply was to the effect that no description



could do the Yellowstone valley justice, and that any one who deviated from Cooper's or Ned Forrest's model of the American savage would be laughed to scorn in the great republic of letters. In speaking of the true interpretation of the word Minnesota, the major said, "in that word you have a fair example of the extravagant taste for romance of Americans. The word is compounded from Min-ne, water, and Sota, smoke, and means literally smoky or clouded water, because of the clouded or smoky appearance the water of the river assumes in its course to the Mississippi." "Sky-tinted water," said the major, "is entirely fanciful, as any one may see by looking at the river at Mendotah."

Major Hatch served the Federal government long and well. He was postmaster at La Crosse in 1846; aided in the removal of the Winnebagoes in 1848; was appointed agent of the Blackfeet Indians in 1855, and served in that extremely dangerous position in the Yellowstone and Big Horn country for two years. At that time none but those well versed in Indian character, could by any possibility preserve their scalps among those war-like people. Major Hatch became almost an idol among them, and performed his duties to the entire satisfaction of the government.

On his return to St. Paul he was appointed, in 1860, deputy collector for that port, and in 1863, after again aiding in the removal of the Winnebagoes to the Missouri, he was commissioned major by the war department, and was authorized to raise an independent battalion to serve upon the Indian and British frontier. I was offered a commission by the major in his battalion. While in command of his battalion, he devised a scheme in which Little Six and Medicine Bottle were finally brought to the gallows. Thomas Le Blanc and an associate in daring crossed the British frontier, and while those Sioux murderers were boasting of their crimes, they were captured and brought into Minnesota, bound on a dog train, and turned over to justice and to death.

Major Hatch died in St. Paul of cholera morbus, September 14, last, aged fifty-seven years, loved and honored by his wife and six children, and esteemed by all who had the privilege of his acquaintance. As for myself, I regret his departure as a long-tried friend. I was one year his senior in age and strength of body, but not of mind, and in our youth had the good fortune twice to save him from assault where his life was endangered,—once by a vicious son of Decorah, and at another time by a no less vicious white man,

who had assaulted him unawares, and who afterward committed a murder. Those early experiences were remembered as a tie between us, that time nor distance could wholly sever, and now that he has left us, I wish to record my esteem and friendship for one of the noblest Romans of them all.

There are but few of the earliest pioneers left; James Reed died June 2, 1873, aged about seventy-five.

It would be useless to attempt the destruction of a popular idol, for there is too little of romance in this matter-of-fact age, but it is well to state here that the Indians laugh when the legend of the "Lover's Leap" is repeated to them.

A very casual survey of the ground at the foot of "The Leap" will show what a prodigious jumper the girl must have been, to have jumped into the lake, as many believe she did. If the legend had any foundation at all, it was most probably based upon the rebellion of some strong-minded We-no-nah (meaning the first-born girl) to a sale of her precious self to a gray-bearded French trader, as James Reed supposed, from a tradition said to exist concerning such an event. As there was an old trading-post, fort and mission established in 1727 on the north shore near the Lovers' Leap, it is more probable that some trader of that post made the purchase, than any at the foot of the lake, as Reed supposed from the Indian account of the affair.

It may be that the girl threatened to jump from the cliff, so near to the old post, but if she did, like Reed, I will venture the prediction that she was *cuffed* into submission to the will of her dear mother.

I have known of but few instances of rebellion of daughters to the wills of their parents, when sold into matrimony; hence submission may be said to be almost universal. Extremes will sometimes meet, and here we see the untutored savage, and the belles of Saratoga and of Paris join hands in sympathy.

The American Indians have distinctive customs and traits of character, but none perhaps more peculiar than belong to other barbarous peoples. The language of the Algonquin race may be regarded as the most manly in expression and in poetic beauty, but the character of the Dah-ko-tahs should be deemed the type of all that is possible in human endurance, craft and ferocity. Their sun-dance, or We-wan-yag-wa-ci-pi can only be endured by men of the most determined will, and that, too, sustained by the fanaticism of a heathen devotion. Their sacred dance, Wah-kon-wa-ci-pi, like the Winnebagoes' medicine dance, Mah-cah-wash-she-rah, is as close and

exclusive a communion of men of high degree, as one given by Knights Templars. None but the invited and initiated are ever allowed to be present during some of the ceremonies, but after the ground has been prepared and the dance has been inaugurated by its leader, the less favored barbarians are allowed to witness the splendor of the dresses worn on the occasion, and hear some of the laudations of valor, and the monotonous Hy-yi-yah that forms the burden of their songs.

The poetic element is not absolutely wanting in an Indian, but it requires a good degree of imagination in a white man to comprehend their efforts in song, and considerable ingenuity to connect their disjointed rhythms into rhyme.

For some days previous to any sacred dance the chief medicine-men, or priests, and their neophytes fast, or eat sparingly. If a dog is to be eaten at the conclusion of their fast, or if a beaver has been secured for the feast that will follow, they are both lauded for their respective qualities; the dog for his faithfulness, and the beaver for his wisdom. The dog is well fed and told not to be offended because of the intention of sending him to the spirit-world, as there he will find all that a good dog can desire, and that his bones shall be preserved in the medicine lodges of the band.

The bones of dogs, beaver, bear and eagles are often taken to the high priests for their blessings; and they are then preserved in bags or pouches and held sacred as charms against evil. These medicine-bags are a badge of membership in the sacred order, and are sacredly preserved from generation to generation.

Upon one occasion I witnessed what might be termed the agonized regret of a medicine-chief at the loss of one. While intoxicated his canoe and its cargo of household goods had escaped him, and was picked up by a wood-chopper named Johnson, who robbed the canoe of its contents and then set it adrift. I recovered for the learned priest all but his sacred pouch, which had been cast into the fire as a thing of no value whatever, containing, as Johnson said, nothing but a bear's claw, an eagle's beak, a filthy rag, and some bones that he supposed to have belonged to a human hand. The medicine-man was a half Sioux and half Winnebago, named Ke-ra-choose-sep-kah, to whom Black Hawk surrendered after his defeat at Bad-axe, and who, in company with Nee-no-hump-e-cah, delivered him to the military authorities at Prairie du Chien. Big-nose, as the Indian was more generally known, after vainly searching for the

medicine-bag, offered me, if I would find it, all I had recovered for him, which, including coin, was of at least the value of three hundred dollars. I never told the chief that the bag was burned up, and advised the thief, after compelling restitution of all except the bag, to leave the country, which the rascal did at once. The son of the great chief Big-nose stayed at my house two nights recently, and referring to the loss of his father's medicine-bag, he regretted it, he said, because it contained powerfully-charmed relics of both tribes, besides a piece of cloth given him by Black Hawk as a memento of his friendship for having saved him from butchery. I thought it best to tell him the bag was burned, and he seemed relieved when told the truth, as now he knew that the bag had not fallen into the hands of an enemy to work his destruction, thus showing that he had faith in "his own medicine."

The only way in which a white man can fully understand an Indian and secure his full confidence is to join the tribe and be initiated into their medicine-lodges, like Frank H. Cushing, commissioned by the Smithsonian Institution to investigate the history of the Pueblo Indians as it may be traced in their present life and customs. Few men would be found fitted for such an office, and if a similar attempt were to be made among the Sioux, it would probably involve the taking part in a sun-dance, an ordeal that a white man, however brave, would not have fortitude enough to go through. A sun-dance is sometimes given by an individual who has made a vow to the sun, and in such cases, after having gone through the tortures of the ordeal, he gives away all his property and commences life anew. As a general rule the dance is given as a test of courage and faith in the religious belief of the Dah-ko-tah, that the sun is the all-powerful deity of the universe, who controls their destiny and deserves their worship.

The high ground near the present residence of Mayor Lamberton was the dancing-ground of the Wah-pa-sha band, and, strange as it may appear, the scaffoldings for the dead were in the immediate vicinity. The dance or altar pole was erected on a level place, and various devices and totems were then cut upon it and figured in yellow ochre and vermilion. Conspicuous among the hieroglyphs was a central circle, with rays to represent the sun, and above all were flags and gay streaming ribbons. The ground was sanctified, after the usual Indian method, by incense, down, and evergreens of cedar or juniper, though the white cedar was preferred, and distance marks



set up to indicate which portion of the ground was to be regarded as sacred.

Sometimes young dogs were slaughtered and left at the base of the pole, with head a little raised and their legs stretched out as if to climb up. The blood of those innocent victims was sanctified by the great high priest of the band, and, soaking into the sacred earth, it was supposed to be a sweet savor in the nostrils of the spirits whom it was believed were present at the dance. To show the high estimation in which Christianity is held by the Indians, I will state that I was patronizingly told by one of them that the puppies were placed on the altar to call good spirits to the dance, "just like Jesus."

The final ceremonies, from all I could learn, were regarded as too sacred for the unanointed to witness, but I gleaned, from conversations at various times, that for the most part they consist of cabalistic utterances in dead or extinct languages, or perhaps that of some living but foreign tribes held to be more potent than their own. As morning approaches the camp is aroused, and the whole village moves *en masse* to the altar-pole. Here quick preparation is made to greet the rising sun with the dance of his votaries and the shouts of his red children. Incisions are quickly made in the skin in various parts of the body of those who are to be tested, and thongs of rawhide are passed through and tied securely to the pole, from which the victim is expected to tear loose during the dance.

As the sun appears a universal shout is given as an all-hail, and the dance begins. Drums are beaten by relays of vigorous drummers, while each dancer pipes a shrill whistle held in his mouth while dancing. At intervals chosen bands of singers shout their approval of the tortures endured, while the dancer is stimulated to frenzy by his family and friends to tear loose from his fastenings and join in the honored circle of the dance. After many plunges the brave neophyte breaks loose and dances until exhausted, when he is taken to the tepee of his family and cared for as a hero.

Should one of the poor martyrs to his faith fail to free himself, his friends reproach him, or throw themselves upon him, until their added weight tears loose the thongs, when, without a murmur of pain, he will join in the dance, and, without sustenance of any kind, continue to dance until exhausted. Should it happen that the terrors of the ordeal should overcome the courage and endurance of any who have aspired to the roll of honor, he is at once cast out from

among the braves and told to fish or work, but never to bear arms. One Sioux of the Wah-pa-sha band was degraded to the rank of a woman, and made to wear the apparel of a female. He left for a time and joined a western band, but his reputation for cowardice followed him, and he was driven back by the contempt of the squaws, with whom he was again made to associate. He finally settled down to his fate, and learned some of the industries of Sioux womanhood. The festival of the sun is held in midsummer, and lasts several days. During its continuance the whole band join in merriment and games, and the orators and medicine-men receive large donations as a reward for their most important services. The young graduates of the dance have medicine-bags presented them, made up, for the most part, of old relics of battles fought by their sires, together with anything most horribly disgusting that may appeal to the credulity of ignorance. With these sacks the medicine-men pretend to work spells that will cause the death of an enemy or chase sickness from their friends.

The sun-dance is one of the many evidences of the Dah-ko-tahs' southwestern origin, as the same torture is submitted to by the Indians of New Mexico, who are also sun-worshippers. The Winnebagoes are also sun-worshippers, and usually bury their dead at sunrise, with head to the west. As far as I know, no northern or eastern tribe submits to the torturing pain of a sun-dance, except in a few instances, when it was imposed upon the credulity of one tribe by fanatical emissaries of the Sioux.

The Dah-ko-tahs have many legends, and may be regarded as greatly given to romance. They believe themselves to be the very salt of earth, and that Minnesota was the center of creation. How else can it be, say they, when the water runs off from our land, are we not above all others? This idea gave them self-importance and arrogance in their dealings with other nations. The Sioux, though generous and hospitable, are yet quarrelsome, and the establishment of the Wah-pa-sha band was the result of a long continued traditional quarrel, first of the Isanti, and then of the Wah-pe-ton, or New Leaf bands of Sioux. According to this tradition, given me by Le Blanc, the chiefs of the Isanti, or knife band, quarreled about the jurisdiction of the chert, or knifestone quarries in the Mille Lac country, and to avoid bloodshed, the ancestors of Wah-pa-sha established themselves upon the Me-day-wah-kon, or Good Spirit lake. There they remained for a number of generations, until by magic the

spirits of malignant chiefs entered into the medicine lodges of the tribe, and again the band was torn asunder ; the peaceful portion emigrating from their pine forests and rice swamps to a country of *earlier* and *different* foliage, and the band then took the name of Wah-pe-tou, or the new leaf band. It is somewhat remarkable that the Chippewas call the country and river immediately below the falls of St. Anthony, including the site of St. Paul, Ish-ke-bug-ge-see-bee, or the New Leaf river, because in the early spring-time the leaves shoot out earlier than above the falls. The Sioux tradition goes on to relate that there they established themselves in comfort, some going up the Minnesota, where buffaloes were plenty, others, as their numbers increased at the Wah-coo-tay village, spread themselves along down to the Cannon river and to Rem-ne-cha, or the Red Wing village, where for many, many years they fattened on the game and wild rice of the region about them.

Again they tell that in this paradise of hunters dissensions once more arose among them, and, disregarding the warnings of previous counsels to avoid strife, the great Red Wing and the noble Wah-pasha became involved in that quarrel. The friends and adherents of both were equally strenuous in the support of their respective chiefs, and after a prolonged council of the entire band, ending in an outburst of angry passion, the respective partisans seized their war-clubs and quivers and were about to fight, but before the war-whoop was given for battle Wah-pasha commanded silence by a wave of his red cap, and telling the assembled multitude to cease their strife, threw his totem or badge of authority, the red cap, into air. A whirlwind took it up and it instantly disappeared. At the same moment a convulsion of the earth was felt, darkness fell upon them, and in the morning, when all was once again serene, they found that a portion of the bluff containing the bones of their dead, had disappeared. A party of their principal braves were dispatched in search of the lost mountain, and as they descended in canoes they recognized what is now known as the "Sugar Loaf," as the red cap of their chief, transformed into stone.

The distant peak of Trempealeau mountain was soon discovered to be a part of their lost inheritance, and hastening on, the moving or moved mountain, or Pah-ha-dah, as it is called in the Dah-ko-tah tongue, was overtaken just as it made a vain effort to plunge into the lake of Me-day Pah-ha-dah. The other peaks of the Red Wing range had already caught upon the sandy point of the prairie, and

therefore, claiming their truant possessions, they made those peaks the dividing line between themselves and the Winnebagoes.

It only remains for me to say, *in proof of the entire authenticity of this tradition*, that until defaced by the growing wants of a city, the bluff resembled in shape a *voyageur* cap of *ancient* date, and the red appearance of the *face of the cliff* justified its Sioux name of Wah-pa-ha-sha, or the cap of Wah-pa-sha.

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## CHAPTER VIII.

### PREHISTORIC.

Going back beyond tradition, we find in our midst evidences of a numerous people having once occupied the adjacent territory.

Judge George Gale, the founder of the university at Galesville, Wisconsin, in his very valuable work, "Upper Mississippi," says, "To us of the New World there is a 'Greece' that literally 'slumbers in the tomb.' A nation or people which for centuries occupied a territory nearly as large as all Europe, and had a population which probably numbered its millions, have left the graves of their fathers and the temples of their gods so unceremoniously that their very name has disappeared with them, and we only know of their existence by their decayed walls and tumuli, and by their bones, exhibiting the human form, although in a far-gone state of decay."

Judge Gale's book shows great research and critical acumen, and the calamity which befell the plates in the great Chicago fire should be repaired by a new imprint of the volume. My space will only admit of a reference to the work, but I cannot forego the justice to say that, so far as I know, Judge Gale was first to notice in print the mounds and other earthworks in Trempealeau county, Wisconsin, and at La Crescent in Minnesota.

Few persons have any adequate conception of the vast area covered by earthworks in the United States, or of the immense labor expended in their construction. A mound in Montgomery county, Ohio, according to Gale, contains 311,353 cubic feet of earth. One in Virginia is seventy feet high and 1,000 feet in circumference, and



the great Cahokia mound of Illinois is ninety feet high and over 2,000 feet in circumference, containing over 20,000,000 cubic feet, and one in the State of Mississippi covers an area of six acres.

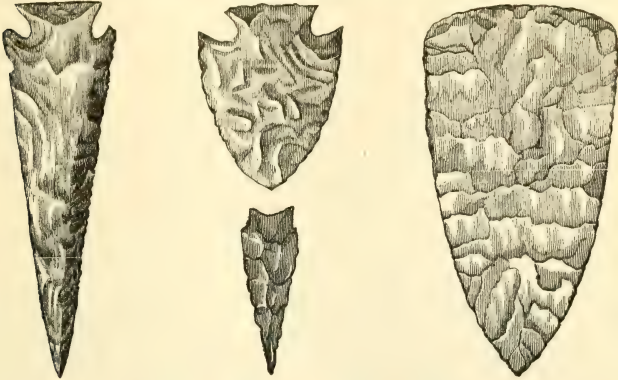
In these mounds there are sometimes found pearls, sharks' teeth and marine shells, obsidian or volcanic glass, native copper and native silver, sometimes united unalloyed, as found only in Russia and on Lake Superior, where innumerable stone implements are still to be found that have evidently been used in extracting those metals. Lead has also occasionally been found, but not so frequently as copper. Stone implements are found in mounds and upon the surface, especially after plowing, wherever these ancient works appear. The implements are generally manufactured from syenite or some hard trap rock, and consist of stone pipes, hammers, axes, scrapers or fleshers, pestles, spinners or twistors, still used by Mexican Indians. Obsidian, chert and copper, spear and arrow heads are quite common. About the mounds of the lower Mississippi old pottery is quite common, but among those of the upper Mississippi it is only occasionally found. The mound-builders must have possessed some mathematical knowledge, as some of their earthworks show a good degree of geometrical skill, as well as military ideas of defense against assaults of enemies.

Ten miles below La Crosse, on Coon prairie, there is a line of earthworks and mounds of considerable size and interest, and on the Clark farm, on the La Crosse river, the works all seem to be of a defensible character. At Onalaska they are also quite numerous, and about one mile above McGilvray's ferry on Black river there is an old earth fort and mounds that still remain quite conspicuous.

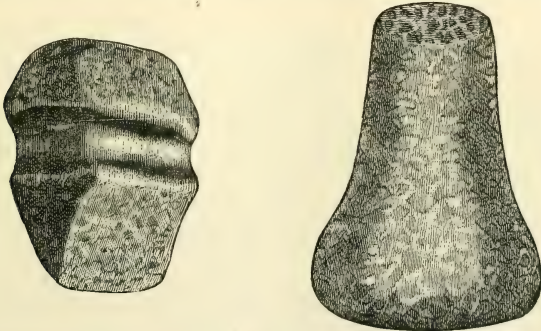
At Galesville and vicinity are quite a number of mounds, including some built in the shape of man, and many, according to Gale, in the shape of animals. The most conspicuous, because most accessible, are the mounds in and near the village of Trempealeau. One, west of Mr. Boer's residence, commands a fine view from its elevation above the surrounding surface. In the neighborhood of the Baptist church there are also several of an interesting character. Near Pine Creek station there are some very fine ones. At La Crescent and on Pine Creek, Minnesota, there are a number of mounds of small size; and coming up to Winona, on the south shore, at intervals they appear at Dresbach, Dah-co-tah, Richmond, La Moille, Cedar Creek, Homer, Pleasant and Burns valleys. Upon the farm of Miss Maggie Burns there are several mounds that still

remain undisturbed, but along the public road several very symmetrical mounds have been leveled in construction and repairs of the thoroughfare.

Upon the table of West Burns valley the Rheibeau boys plowed up some of the most elegantly-shaped stone implements ever dis-



covered in any country. To my chagrin, after a vain attempt to purchase them, I was told that a gentleman from Milwaukee had



induced Mrs. Rheibeau to part with them, and thus were lost to the museums of Winona a few celts not surpassed by any in the large collection at the Centennial Exposition.

My niece, Mrs. Louise Page, found a number of arrow and spear heads and a few fragments of pottery in Homer, and near the Keys

mansion she picked from the river bank a large stone hammer, which is now in the museum of the Winona normal school. The hammer was imbedded about two feet in the soil, and was most likely buried, like the silver ornaments found near it, in the grave of some dead warrior. The Catholic emblems in silver were those in common use among the Catholic Indians and half-breeds of Canada within my recollection, and most probably belonged to some Canadian voyageur, or perhaps was buried, after the Indian custom, with the body of some Indian (or squaw) convert to the Catholic faith. The high point at Keys' was a favorite burying-ground, because of its extreme height above the river during an overflow of the lower land of the prairie. The sites selected for their burying-grounds indicated to the old traders the Indian's anticipations of a possible overflow of the prairie.

Upon the farm of Myles Roach, in the town of Homer, a number of stone arrow and spear heads have been found by the sons of Mr. Roach, and one of copper was found which was purchased by R. F. Norton, now of the village of Homer. There have also been found along the river front in Winona copper implements, one of which, found by Geo. Cole, is in the possession of his father, Dr. James M. Cole, of Winona.

Most of the implements found on the surface have, no doubt, been lost while in use, but those found in mounds and in ossuaries have been placed there with the remains of the dead. The ossuaries of Barn Bluff and of Minnesota City were, no doubt, places of interment of the bones of the dead, which had been divested of their flesh by exposure upon scaffolds or trees.

In the early days of my first acquaintance with the Dah-ko-tahs, no other mode of burial would satisfy their ideas of a proper sepulture, but after a time the example set by the white people of burying their dead had its influence, and in modern times, except among the wildest bands, the Sioux began to bury their dead soon after their demise. The body of Chandee, son of Wah-kon-de-o-tah, the war-chief of Wah-pa-sha, was buried upon my brother's property at Homer by special request of his relatives. His sister, Shook-ton-ka, the champion girl racer of the band, and some children of Wah-pa-sha, were buried near the site of the Huff house. After the treaty was decided upon by the band, many bones of the dead were removed and buried in secret places at night, lest they should be disturbed by white settlers, whom the Indians knew would eventually occupy the

country. Some of the ancient mounds have been used by modern tribes as receptacles for their dead, but in such cases the fact is readily discernible, as no regard has been paid by the modern Indians to the strata of earth, clay and sand, or gravel, of which the burial or sacrificial mounds have been composed. It is believed by some that the circle of skulls found in an ancient ossuary at Minnesota City were the crania of victims to some religious sacrifice around the altar-pole, or else of captives slaughtered and left, as puppies are left in modern times, with heads to the pole, which might account for the position the skulls were found in. At Bluff Siding, opposite Winona, along the wagon-road to Galesville, a number of mounds may be seen, occupying an admirable position for defense.

The limits of my paper have been reached, and I must hasten to a close; but I crave my readers' interest in behalf of my brother Willard, in connection with his settlement in Winona county. As for myself, it will suffice for me to say that, dissatisfied with what appeared to me as time thrown away upon the frontier, I returned to Detroit and recommenced the study of medicine in the office of Dr. Scoville, an eminently successful physician and surgeon. Upon the appointment of Adrian R. Terry, uncle of Gen. Terry, to the surgeoncy of the 1st Mich. reg. during the Mexican war, I was given the hospital stewardship of that regiment, and served to the close of that war. While quartered in Cordova, Mexico, I was placed in full charge of the post hospital during the illness of Drs. Terry and Lembke, and returned to Detroit, Michigan, at the close of the war in medical charge of one detachment. Having acquired a taste for a free life when the gold discovery in California *became a fact*, I went overland through Mexico to Mariposa, where, compelled at first to fight Indians in self-defense, I finally became a member of the Mariposa battalion. While on duty in that organization I became one of the discoverers of the now famous Yosemite valley, the name of which was given by myself, as will appear in my book, "Discovery of the Yosemite," published by F. H. Revell, of Chicago.

During the war of the rebellion I served in the ranks as a private, and through successive promotions (having had conferred upon me a degree) reached the rank of major by a commission as surgeon of the 36th reg. Wis. Inf. Assigned to detached duty on March 27, 1865, with the 1st Minn., I served in that regiment as its sole medical officer until its return to Washington at the close of the war.



I will close this paper with an extract from a series of articles furnished the "La Crosse Chronicle," that I hope may be deemed a fitting close to my subject.

In 1848 and later, my brother Willard was employed in moving the Indians. Some of them, the Winnebagoes especially, were very much dissatisfied, and declared they would not leave for the home selected for them on the Minnesota river. Will's influence was great among them at that time, and he succeeded in collecting about three hundred of them. Having arranged with Miller for the use of the warehouse of his old firm, he quartered them in it. They seemed contented enough until a short time before the steamer came to carry them up the river, when they set up a most unearthly yell, broke through their guard, seized their ponies from an adjacent corral and disappeared. Other means were then resorted to, and they were removed in smaller squads or details; but they would return again and again to their native haunts as if drawn back by some occult force. Will's discernment would penetrate all disguises of paint, red, green or blue blankets, until at last they yielded to his persisted efforts and remained upon the new reservation.

My brother has assured me that many of the Indians receipted for by the officers at Fort Snelling he had removed over and over again. With Indian cunning they would assume a new name with each new disguise, and the officers were unable to discover or remedy it.

With the Indians went Asa White and Tom Holmes, both of whom had squaws for wives. Miller & Myrick had already dissolved partnership before the Indians were removed, and were virtually out of the Indian trade, but their influence was still more or less potent in Indian affairs, and they were advised with as to their management. My brother's persevering energy in removing the Winnebagoes was awarded by a permit to trade with the Wabasha band, and he settled upon their reservation.

This gave him great advantages, and obtaining the consent of Wah-pa-sha, rewarding him liberally, Will planted old Mr. Burns and his remaining family upon what has since been known as the Burns' farm, providing each member old enough with a claim.

Will was unable to choose as well for himself as he had for the Burns family, for being under the impression that the site of Winona was subject to overflow, he located at Homer, which he named after his birthplace, the village of Homer, New York state. Here he

built the first house in 1849, and in 1850-51 made a large addition to the building and moved into it. Peter Burns and himself became interested in a scheme to control the trade of the interior, by securing the nearest "high-water landing" below Winona, and for that purpose, in conjunction with Borup, an old trader and a brother of Senator Alex. Ramsey, of St. Paul, they laid out the village of Minne-o-way, building a large hotel and storehouses to accommodate the very large business destined to reward their enterprise. By some oversight they had neglected to comply with some provision of the law, and a keen-sighted man by the name of Dougherty, discovering their neglect, pounced down upon their claim, and in a suit that followed secured land, hotel and storehouses as his homestead. Burns was lucky enough, before the final decision was rendered, to sell his interests for \$4,000.

As to the site of Winona, known to the Dah-co-tahs as Keoxa, it was firmly believed by the old traders and lumbermen to be subject to overflow in the highest water. From the deck of a steamer passing at the highest stage, the space left dry really appeared very small. In very high water all of the low land of the prairie was submerged and a volume sufficient to run a steamboat ran down south of the city, before the railroad embankment was raised. The Indians laughed at the supposed folly of the white men in building on the "island," and it was an anticipated joke that Will would sometime be seen, pikepole in hand, rescuing the floating property of this embryo city and hauling it out upon his higher landing.

Poor Will! He had been out so long upon the frontier that he failed to realize what money and enterprise would do to improve and protect a city so advantageously situated as Winona. He and his brave wife are both gone now from the scenes of their early hopes and perils. He left in August, 1861, and she in 1868, leaving a family of two sons and four daughters.

## CHAPTER IX.

### GEOGRAPHICAL.

THE geographical position of Winona county is between parallels 43 and 45 north latitude, 44 passing through the center of the county, and between meridians 91 and 92 west, a small portion of the county lying west of 92. It is organized from townships Nos. 105, 106, 107 north, of ranges No. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 west, and contains twenty organized townships, fifteen of which are full townships, containing thirty-six sections. One is organized from half a township, and one is formed of townships Nos. 107 and 108, of range No. 8. Four are irregular in form on the northern boundary, and are fractional. The county is located in the southeastern part of the State of Minnesota, and is bounded on the north by Wabasha county and partly by the Mississippi river, and on the east by the Mississippi, which flows here in a southeasterly direction, and on the south by Houston and Fillmore counties, and on the west by Olmsted and Wabasha counties. In shape, nearly a right-angled triangle, longest on the southern boundary, being about forty miles or six and a half townships in length, and twenty-four miles or four townships in width from north to south. It is regular in form on the southern and western boundaries, the Mississippi river forming nearly the hypotenuse of the triangle from northwest to southeast.

The surface, within the distance of about twelve miles from the Mississippi river, is bluffy or broken, the river being about five hundred feet below the general surface. Houston county is a trifle higher in altitude; with that exception this county is the highest on this side, and contiguous to the river from its source to its mouth. Bold perpendicular ledges of rock form the sides of the bluff in many places along the river, and a considerable portion of the south part of the county contiguous to the Root river is of the same character. Four townships of the northwest part of the county along the Whitewater are also rough and rocky. The remainder of the surface is undulating prairie, irregular in extent, comprising not far from six townships, and located in the central and western parts of the county.

When the altitude is reached there is great uniformity in the appearance of the surface, and any other highland may be visited without materially ascending or descending, the high lands being all connected by a series of ridges which form the divides between the streams which flow into the Mississippi and those which flow into the Root river on the south and the Whitewater on the north.

There are no swamp lands in the county, and not a regular quarter-section that would be benefited for agriculture by artificial drainage. There are a few acres in patches along the Mississippi and along the margins of some of the smaller streams of marsh or bog lands, liable to overflow, but producing excellent grass. The waters of the county all find their way to the Mississippi; those in the north part of the county furnish the south branches of the Whitewater. On the north and east each township contributes a stream to the Mississippi. The largest and most important of these is the Rollingstone, which drains nearly one hundred square miles of surface, and affords water-power for six large flouring mills. There are also several unoccupied powers on the different branches of the stream.

Each township of the southern tier also furnishes a stream to Root river. All these streams are formed by springs, and are nearly uniform throughout the year as to supply of water, and, having considerable fall, afford water-power which in the future may be developed.

The surplus water of the county finds its way to these streams through the ravines and small valleys reaching out toward the prairie in all directions.

Utica, or town 106, range 9, occupies the summit, being drained on the northeast into Rollingstone, on the northwest into Whitewater, and on the south into Rush creek; and this township is also nearly the center of the prairie surface.

The longest, largest, main ridge of the county begins in the southeastern part, on the divide between the waters which flow into the Mississippi and those which flow into Root river, and extends in a northwesterly direction through the townships of Dresback, New Hartford, Pleasant Hill, Wilson and Warren into Utica. From this main ridge branches innumerable extend in every direction. The most important ones are Homer ridge between Cedar and Pleasant Valley creeks, and Minneiska ridge between Whitewater and Rollingstone, both ridges leading to the Mississippi river.



In the south part of St. Charles in Saratoga, and the northwest part of Fremont, are to be found some broken ridges or hills, none of them rising above the general surface of the county. The valleys surrounding these hills are not so deep as the valleys along the streams in other parts of the county, and in some places they gradually rise and extend into broad upland prairies.

In this part of the county, or among these hills, there are several fine groves of timber. Cheatem's grove in the southwest part of Utica, Blair's grove in the northeast part of Saratoga, and Harvey's grove on the line between Saratoga and St. Charles, are the most notable. They contain a fine thrifty growth of oak, poplar and butternut, with a dense growth of underbrush in some places.

At the heads of all the streams, or along their margins, timber of various kinds is found. As we approach the top of the bluffs it consists mostly of white and red oak, with patches of white birch. In the valleys are found burr oak, hard maple, white ash, rock and red elm, basswood, hackberry, black walnut, butternut and poplar. The bluff lands, which include the parts of the county lying along the Mississippi, the Whitewater and the branches of Root river, and the ridges connecting them, are generally well timbered, especially on their sides facing the north, the fires of early spring burning the south sides before the snow has left the north sides, or before they become sufficiently dry to burn. Where the fire is kept out timber rapidly springs up.

As the line of the county extends to the middle of the channel of the Mississippi, and the channel sometimes passes next to the Wisconsin side, there is in the townships of Rollingstone and Winona a large amount of bottom-lands covered with timber. Oak, ash, elm, birch, cottonwood, willow and maple are most abundant.

In the two townships last mentioned, there is lying between the bluffs and the river a sand or gravel prairie six or seven miles in length and about three-quarters of a mile in width, which is a few feet above high water, and of nearly uniform level surface. Contiguous to this prairie, and next to the bluffs, is a series of terrace or table lands, which are timbered with the three kinds of oak before mentioned. The same character of table-lands also occur at the mouths of all the streams that flow into the Mississippi.

As we leave the timber and ridges approaching the prairie throughout the whole county, there is more or less grub or brush land, which is usually a small growth of oak, red and white. There

are also patches of brush land consisting of hazelnut, wild plum and crab-apple.

The bluff and ridge lands throughout the county, especially the part that is timbered, consist of a clay loam varying from one foot to twenty feet in depth. As the Mississippi and the larger streams are approached, the sides of the bluffs are in many places quite precipitous, the rocks cropping out to the surface. As the bluffs are descended, the soil changes in composition by an admixture of sand and lime from the decomposed rocks.

Lands lying close by the river at the mouth of the valleys have little or no clay at the surface, but the soil is underlaid by a stratum of clay or loess almost impervious to water before reaching the gravel or sand rock of the bed of the river.

As we ascend the streams that flow into the Mississippi, if the valleys are broad the soil is a stiff, tenacious clay of bluish cast, but darkens in color on exposure to the air.

This clay is evidently local drift, as it is stratified and does not contain any boulders, drift coal, nor other matter indicating true northern drift. Where the valleys have retained the wash of the bluffs, and the water-courses have not interfered, the clay is covered and mixed with vegetable mould, sand and lime, in some places several feet deep.

The soil of the upland prairie is a deep dark loam, and is underlaid by stiff clay or by rock. This soil does not materially change in color nor in texture by cropping. Among the broken ridges or hills of the south-central and west parts of the county the rocks come very near to the surface of the upland, and the lower ground, though gradually rising into upland prairie, is in places quite sandy. There is upon the surface of this sandy land an accumulation of decomposed vegetable matter very dark in color, indicating the presence of lime in its composition.

The soil of the brush or grub lands is similar in appearance to that of the timber lands, but contains a much greater amount of crude vegetable matter.

Spring wheat has been considered as the staple crop, but oats, corn, barley and potatoes in the order named are largely grown.

The timbered or ridge lands have produced good crops of winter as well as spring wheat for twenty-five years, and winter wheat was also grown in the valleys near the Mississippi for several years very successfully. It has not, however, succeeded on the prairie.

Though this county does not claim to be the banner county of the state in wheat-raising, it is entitled to its full share of the credit for the popularity to which Minnesota wheat has attained for quality and amount to the acre under cultivation. It is said to be a fact that any soil which will produce good crops of wheat will also grow good crops of any of the cereals adapted to the climate. Whatever failures may have occurred in the production of the common cereals in this county, in no case can the failure be attributed wholly to the character of the soil. For the production of these grains the average yield compares favorably with any portion of the state. One instance of the marvelous productiveness of the soil may be given. Upon the first farm opened in the Rollingstone valley there was sown, in the first week in October, 1852, some winter wheat. It was harvested the first week in July of the next year, threshed upon the ground with a flail and cleaned with a sheet in the wind, and yielded thirty-seven bushels to the acre. The same ground produced nine successive crops of wheat, and the ninth was the best that had been raised. This ground has now been under cultivation for thirty years without any particular rotation of crops and without artificial manure, and is apparently as productive as ever for any crop except wheat, yielding large crops annually of corn, oats, barley or grass. The average yield of wheat has, however, materially decreased in this, as well as in other counties of the state for a few years past. It is believed to be owing entirely to climatic reasons, as there has been no diminution in the yield of other grains. The grass product ranks next to oats in acreage, being somewhat more than corn, and within the last few years stock of all kinds is receiving much attention, and so far no general diseases have appeared among swine, cattle and horses.

Of other productions than those already named there is found in our market rye, buckwheat, beans, flax-seed, timothy and clover seed, grapes, tobacco, onions and honey.

In the vicinity of the bluffs contiguous to the Mississippi, and along the margins of the smaller streams, crab-apples, wild plums and grapes are abundant.

In the timbered belt, about the groves, and in sheltered locations, several varieties of the cultivated apples are grown. As reported by the assessors, there are at present growing in the county about 51,000 apple-trees.

Of the smaller fruits, grapes, strawberries, raspberries, currants, etc., are grown in all parts of the county, and yield abundantly.

In character and variety of wild plants and flowers, this county does not differ materially from others similarly situated. The upland prairie produces grass mainly. There is, however, during the summer, a great profusion of wild flowers. Upon the warm hill-sides, or on sandy land, in early spring, sometimes before the snow has disappeared, the well-known anemone is the most conspicuous; during May and June, blue or violet and scarlet are the predominating colors; in July and August, white and yellow adorn the roadsides and uncultivated places. In the fall the moist grounds are literally covered with purple and white.

In the whole timbered belt and along the margins of the streams the ground is loaded with a dense growth of rank vegetation.

Wild deer had been kept out by the Indians, but for a few years after the first settlements were made they gradually increased in numbers; a few are yet seen every winter.

The black bear, being somewhat migratory, has been occasionally seen. Both timber and prairie wolves were at first quite common; the prairie-wolf is still annoying the flocks, but the timber-wolf is rarely seen. Foxes, red and gray, stay about the rocky ravines and bluffs. Beaver were quite plenty in many of the streams. Several otters have been caught, also mink, weasel, and large numbers of musk-rats.

The badger, raccoon, woodchuck and polecat are common.

The large gray wood-squirrel and the prairie gray squirrel, the red squirrel, the chipmuck (the black squirrel has visited us, but is not at home), and both varieties of gopher are numerous.

Of the rabbit the gray is most common.

Of the migratory feathered species that remain here a short time in the spring, but do not nest, the wild goose, the brant, and several varieties of ducks, are the most plenty. These confine themselves mostly to the immediate vicinity of the Mississippi river. The curlew is occasionally seen, also the pelican. Of those that remain during the summer and nest here, the wild pigeon and blackbird are most numerous. The bittern, the sand-hill crane and bald-eagle are common. The mallard and wood-duck frequent the small streams and nest here, but not abundantly.

All the migratory birds common to this latitude are to be seen here.



Of those that remain all winter the prairie-hen is most general; the partridge, the quail, the bluejay, and several varieties of owls, are usually about the sheltered places in the timber.

Speckled trout were in all the small streams of this county and very plenty. There are a few left in nearly all of them. The state fish commissioners have placed young ones in some of the streams. The water coming from springs and being rapid is nicely adapted to their habits, and some efforts have been made to propagate them. There are several fine springs well adapted to fish culture. The main difficulty seems to have been to guard against sudden overflow, as the streams are liable to rise very high and quickly. Fish common to the Mississippi river run up several of the streams in the spring and return to the river again. The Mississippi furnishes a large quantity of fish yearly, the greater portion being taken with the seine. The varieties generally caught are buffalo, catfish, pickerel, bass and wall-eyed pike. There are also sturgeon, sunfish, perch, suckers, and several other kinds.

The geological formation of the county is quite uniform in character. The appearance of the rocks at the surface, in St. Charles, Saratoga, and part of Fremont and Utica, is somewhat different from those lying along the Mississippi, the Whitewater, and the streams that flow into Root river. Here, also, the valleys are much broader, and the loam, or top-soil, thicker and more evenly spread. The highest lands are tillable and usually turfed all over.

The lowest visible rock along the Mississippi, and probably underlying the whole county, is the St. Croix sandstone. This sandstone varies somewhat in appearance and texture. In the southeast part of the county the quarries show a fine building-stone of superior quality for working, of a grayish color, that hardens on exposure to the air. In some places the rocks are of a reddish cast, probably owing to the presence of iron. Some of the layers are quite soft and are readily excavated. In the south part, Utica, St. Charles, part of Fremont and of Saratoga, the sand-rock cropping out of the hills or low bluffs is nearly white in color, loose in texture and disintegrates rapidly, forming a beautiful white sand. Overlying the sandstone is the lower magnesian formation, which also probably underlies most of the county. It is a hard, flinty, whitish or light gray rock, composed of lime and sand, with streaks of calcite along the larger streams. The upper portion only is visible, the lower part being covered with wash from the bluffs. This rock is not

available for use, being very hard and of irregular fracture, not easily quarried or worked. In some places along the Mississippi there is seen, overlying the lower magnesian, a sandstone loose in texture, crumbling rapidly and largely forming the soil of the sides of the bluffs. It is probably not more than fifteen or twenty feet in thickness. Corresponding with this sandstone, there extends through a part of the towns of Wilson, Hart, and part of Norton, a sandstone of similar texture, but deeper colored, more firm, and in some cases regularly and beautifully corrugated. Overlying this sandstone is magnesian limestone, its layers generally regular, but varying in thickness. This is the generally-used building stone of the county. This stone does not change on exposure, and large quantities are used by the railroads and shipped to Wisconsin. There are some small specimens of fossil remains to be seen in this limestone. In the vicinity of St. Charles the limestone is largely composed of fossil remains, trilobites and cretaceous shells of several varieties.

There are no evidences of northern drift in this county. Probably owing to its altitude no boulders are to be found. The clay generally exists in pockets, and is stratified. There are some small deposits of loess usually in the valleys, and mound-like in appearance. Where wells have been sunk in different parts of the county, upon the higher lands, the rocks are found to be of nearly uniform character, and water is not usually found till the sandstone is reached. The well of Mr. Clawson, in Saratoga, presents an unusual phenomena. At the depth of seventy-five feet the drill opened into a crevice or a cave, and the air rushed out with great violence. At the distance of four feet more the rock was again struck, and water obtained at the depth of one hundred and forty feet from the surface. The current of air in the well changes with the wind, the downward current in winter freezing the water in the pipe to the depth of the crevice, seventy or more feet, and again rushing out, so as to thaw all the ice about the well.

In numerous places along the Mississippi, especially upon the gravelly headlands, are yet evidences of the mound-builders. Where the mounds have been examined little has been discovered beyond stone implements, arrow-heads, and in some places skeletons, which are no doubt intrusive burials. Large quantities of clam shells and bones of various animals are also found, mixed with pieces of charcoal and with ashes. In one case a charred package of white birch bark was found of nearly a cubic foot in size, and scattered about the mounds is usually found much fragmentary rude pottery.

## CHAPTER X.

### RAILROADS.

BEFORE the ratification of the treaty by which the Sioux surrendered their lands for settlement, a party of three, headed by Robert Pike, was dispatched from Minnesota City to ascertain whether a practicable route for a railroad to Traverse des Sioux, on the Minnesota river, existed. Early in July, 1852, Mr. Pike made a favorable report, and urged the adoption of some plan for building the road, but he was then accounted an enthusiast, and his scheme dismissed as visionary and impracticable. Early in 1854, however, the project was revived, and, after several ineffectual attempts at organization, a charter was obtained from the legislature March 4, 1854, by Orrin Smith, Henry D. Huff, Abram M. Fridley, Lorenzo D. Smith, John L. Balcombe, Alexander Ramsey, W. A. Gorman, Henry H. Sibley, J. Travis Rosser, Andrew G. Chatfield, Henry McKenty, O. M. Lord, Samuel Humbertson, Martin McLeod, Benjamin Thompson, William H. Newton, James Hanna, G. Addison Brown and Robert Helm, under the name and style of the Transit Railroad Company, authorizing them to construct a railroad from Winona westward to the Minnesota river. In March, 1855, an amended charter was obtained from the legislature, and the incorporators met at St. Paul on the 25th of January, 1856, accepted the charter, and gave official notice thereof to the secretary of the territory. On the 12th of May the sum of \$240,000 had been subscribed to the capital stock of the company, the subscribers being the following named persons: L. D. Smith, H. D. Huff, Wm. Ashley Jones, Charles H. Berry, M. Wheeler Sargent, H. H. Johnson, E. H. Johnson, H. J. Hilbert, E. S. Smith, David Olmsted, M. K. Drew, A. P. Foster, Wm. H. Stevens, John Evans, Chas. Hamilton, O. S. Holbrook, Orrin Smith, John C. Laird, Wm. H. Laird, M. J. Laird, J. H. Jacoby, Royal B. Evans and L. H. Springer. All these, with the exception of Orrin Smith and L. H. Springer, were residents of Winona. The first officers of the company were H. H. Johnson, president; Wm. Ashley Jones, vice-president; H. J. Hilbert, secretary and engineer; H. D. Huff, treasurer.

The organization of the company was only the prelude to a prolonged and bitter contest with parties interested in other localities, and more particularly with the owners and promoters of the town-site of La Crescent. After various vicissitudes, among them the defeat in 1854 of H. D. Huff for the legislature by Clark W. Thompson on this issue, the conflict finally resulted in a victory for Winona and the Transit railroad. On the 3d of March, 1857, Congress passed an act by which the munificent gift of 1,200,000 acres of public lands was conferred upon the state for the benefit of the Transit road. An extra session of the legislature was at once called to consider this and other grants of lands, and on the 22d day of May, 1857, an omnibus bill was passed confirming the grants, and amending the charter of the Transit road so as to authorize it to construct and operate a railroad from Winona via St. Peter to the Big Sioux river. In February, 1858, what is known as the five-million loan amendment to the constitution was adopted by the first state legislature, and was ratified by a vote of the people April 15, 1858. By the terms of this amendment state bonds were to be issued and delivered to the various railroad companies at the rate of \$100,000 for every ten miles graded and bridged ready for the iron, the state taking a first mortgage upon the road-bed so graded, together with the lands and franchises of the company, as security for the loan. The Transit company at once filed their acceptance of the terms of the amendment, and proceeded to let the contract for the grading and construction of seventy-five miles of the line as surveyed west of Winona. In the letting of this first contract, as well as in the location of the line out of Winona, there was a most determined effort on the part of a few men to divert the road from Winona, and so build it as to eventually make La Crescent the eastern terminus. Selah Chamberlain, of Ohio, afterward the builder of several roads in the state, and the largest holder of the state bonds issued under the five-million loan amendment, was a bidder for the contract. It was understood that if he secured it work would be begun at or near Lewiston, and that the matter of the eastern terminus would remain unsettled, with a strong probability that the road would be diverted down the ridge back of Winona to La Crescent. DeGraff & Co., also bidders for the contract, were favored by most of the directors, who were desirous of beginning the work of construction at Winona, and thus at the outset fixing the terminus and settling that question forever. This



company was composed of Col. Andrew DeGraff, B. F. Barnard, Hernando Fuller and William DeGraff, Col. DeGraff being the head and sole manager of the concern. The contest waxed hot, but on the 8th day of June, 1858, the board of directors, after protracted discussion, awarded the contract to DeGraff & Co. Previous to this time there had been much strife between the various town proprietors as to whether the road should leave the city by way of lower town and the Sugar Loaf valley, or from upper town via the Rollingstone valley. The history of this feature of the matter more properly belongs to that of the city of Winona, and will not be further discussed here. The upper town interest won the victory, and on the 9th day of June, 1858, ground was broken at or near the present machine-shops, the event being duly celebrated by the delighted people.

DeGraff & Company were strictly loyal to Winona, although tempting offers were made them to carry out the plans of the La Crescent men, and the work of grading the road went rapidly forward during the following summer and winter, until fifty miles of grading and bridging had been completed, inspected and accepted by the state authorities, and \$500,000 of state bonds delivered to the company. Then came the financial crisis of 1858-9. These bonds were denounced as illegal and fraudulent. They became almost valueless in the market, and all work came to a standstill. DeGraff & Company were unable to pay their men for work and supplies, and much hardship resulted. Upon default in the terms of the mortgage given by the Transit company to secure the loan made by the state, a foreclosure was had, and on June 23, 1860, the road franchises, and other grants, including lands, were sold to the state for the nominal sum of one thousand dollars. March 8, 1861, the legislature granted and transferred all claim upon the property to Orville Clark, Abraham Wing, John W. Kirk, Robert Higham, W. H. Smith, Nelson P. Stewart and B. W. Perkins, and constituted them a corporation under the name of the Winona, St. Peter & Missouri River Railroad Company, upon condition that the road be fully equipped and trains running to Rochester and Owatonna at certain fixed times. No attempt having been made to comply with these conditions, the legislature, on March 10, 1862, made a similar grant to William Lamb, S. S. L'Homedieu, John W. Kirk, Herman Gebhart and H. C. Stimson, under the name and style of the Winona & Saint Peter Railroad Company, free and

clear of all claims and liens upon the property, and upon much more lenient conditions. Work was at once resumed by the new owners, and on December 9, 1862, a passenger train was run by Col. DeGraff from Winona to Stockton and back, the day being marked by another enthusiastic celebration. December 10, 1862, the first carload of wheat was shipped to Winona by L. Raymond and purchased by Asa Forsyth. From this time the work of construction proceeded rapidly. In 1864 the trains reached Rochester, a distance of fifty miles from Winona. In 1865 the road was completed sixty-six miles to Kasson; in 1866, ninety miles to Owatonna; in 1868, one hundred and six miles to Waseca; in 1870, one hundred and thirty-nine miles to Mankato and St. Peter; in 1871, one hundred and sixty-five miles to New Ulm; in 1872 two hundred and eighty-four miles of track were completed west of Winona, and the grading extended three hundred and thirty-one miles to Lake Kampeska in Dakota Territory. In 1879 another line, diverging from the old track at Tracy, in Lyon county, was begun and pushed with such energy that in two years trains were running to Old Fort Pierre, on the Missouri river, connecting with daily stages for the Black Hills. The entire property, save the land grant, had, however, in November, 1867, passed into the hands of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company and become a part of that great system, although still retaining its name and corporate existence. The lands thus separated from the general ownership of the company and its franchises became the property of A. H. Barney and a company of New York capitalists, and are still so owned, excepting those since sold to settlers. A branch from Eyota to Chatfield was opened for business December 8, 1878; from Eyota to Plainview October 22, 1878; from Rochester to Zumbrota November 2, 1878; from Sleepy Eye to Redwood Falls August 4, 1878; from Huron to Ordway November 20, 1881; from Watertown to Clark Centre June 18, 1882; from Volga to Castlewood September 29, 1882; from Clark Centre to Redfield October 22, 1882; from Ordway to Columbia October 22, 1882, making a grand total of 863 miles of this road now directly tributary to Winona.

The following named men, prominent in the railroad history of the West, have been connected with the Winona & St. Peter company: S. S. Merrell, now general manager of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, was general manager of the Winona and St. Peter railroad from February to May, 1865. \* Dwight W.

Keyes, now assistant general freight agent of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, came with Mr. Merrell to the Winona & St. Peter company as auditor, and was left in charge of the road in May, 1865. John Newell, now general manager of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern railroad, was at that time superintendent and chief engineer. H. C. Atkins, now assistant general superintendent of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, was superintendent of the Winona & St. Peter railroad during the years 1866 and 1867, being succeeded by J. H. Stewart, now superintendent of the Marietta & Cincinnati railroad. Gen. J. W. Sprague, late general superintendent of the western division of the Northern Pacific railroad, at the same time becoming general manager of the Winona & St. Peter railroad. April 20, 1874, J. H. Stewart was succeeded by Sherburn Sanborn as superintendent, a position which he still occupies.

The magnificent iron bridge across the Mississippi river used by this road was built during the winter of 1871-2. The draw-span of this bridge is said to be one of the longest in the world (363 feet). It takes the place of a combination wood and iron draw-span built in the winter of 1870-1, which fell on the 27th day of May, 1871, and was entirely removed. This bridge forms a connection with the La Crosse, Trempealeau & Prescott railroad, of which mention will be made hereafter. The bridge was constructed for the company by the American Bridge Company, of Chicago; the piling was done by Frank A. Johnston, and the stonework by Jones & Butler, of Winona. The shops of this company are located at the west end of the city, are large and fully equipped for the business of keeping the road-bed and rolling stock of the road in the best condition. They have been fully described among the institutions of the city of Winona.

*St. Paul & Chicago Railway.*—The corporate name of this company in the original charter, dated May 22, 1857, was the Minnesota & Pacific Railroad Company. By an act of the legislature approved March 2, 1867, the directors were authorized to change the name of the company or that of any of the branches of the road provided for in their charter. Accordingly, on the 19th day of March the board of directors gave the name of "The St. Paul & Chicago Railway" to that part of their line to extend from St. Paul to Winona and thence to the Iowa line. Work was begun upon this line at or near St. Paul in 1865, but nothing was done in Winona county until 1870, when

the road was built from Minnesota City to Weaver and put in operation by the Northwestern Railroad Company. In 1871 the road-bed was completed between St. Peter Junction and St. Paul, and in December of that year was sold to the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company, who immediately took possession, and began operating the road in connection with their line from Chicago and Milwaukee to La Crosse, making connection over the La Crosse, Trempealeau & Prescott road and the bridge at Winona when completed. In 1872, however, the road was extended from St. Peter Junction to La Crescent, on the west side of the Mississippi river, and thereafter all freight trains used this route, being ferried across the Mississippi to La Crosse. Passenger trains, however, continued to run over the Winona bridge and the La Crosse, Trempealeau & Prescott road until 1875, when the magnificent iron bridge between La Crescent and North La Crosse was completed and brought into use for all traffic over the Milwaukee & St. Paul line. As a bonus for the construction of this line the city of Winona, on the 21st day of April, 1870, voted and thereafter issued \$100,000 of its bonds, to be delivered upon the fulfillment of certain conditions by the company. The bonds having been prematurely delivered to the construction company, suit was brought by the city, in which, after protracted litigation, it was finally determined that the prescribed conditions had not been fulfilled, and that the city have damages equal to the amount of the bonds, with interest, which sum has been paid.

*The La Crosse, Trempealeau and Prescott Railroad.*—After the passage of the bill by congress, March 3, 1857, providing for certain land grants to aid in the construction of railroads in Minnesota, and among them the Transit railroad, with its eastern terminus at Winona, the next important project was to connect Winona and the Transit-railroad with the railroads in Wisconsin and Illinois, and through them with the railroad system of the United States. It was also proposed by means of this connection to cut off La Crosse, Winona's most formidable rival, from the benefits of northern and western connections, as it was thought that but one road would ever cross the Mississippi river in this section of country. It was therefore resolved to keep the matter of this "cut off," or eastern connection, in the hands of Winona men. In the winter of 1858-9, in the midst of the pinching hard times brought on by the financial crisis of that time, Capt.



Sam Whiting, Thomas Simpson and M. K. Drew started out one severely cold day to look out a practicable route for a railroad east from Winona to a point of intersection with the proposed line of the Milwaukee & La Crosse railroad. They cut their way from Altoona, now Bluff Siding, through the swamps, and camped the first night in the heavy timber. The next morning, after eating frozen bread and meat for breakfast, they proceeded with their work, and in about half-an-hour came out upon a prairie covered with fenced fields and farm-houses. They had spent a night in the snow, which Capt. Whiting said was equal to any of his arctic experiences, within half a mile of a substantial and comfortable farm-house. The people of Winona had been so occupied with their own great prospects and those of the country west of them, that they had no knowledge of this well-settled country just east of them. The following spring Z. H. Lake and Thomas Simpson were again sent over the proposed route, and instructed to go to La Crosse to see if that city would not unite with Winona in building this connection, the extreme hard times having somewhat modified the ambitions and claims of Winona. A preliminary survey of the route was made by these gentlemen, which coincides almost exactly with the line as afterward built. They met with a very cool reception at La Crosse, being informed that that city would have nothing to do with the project, and that they would prevent if possible the granting of a charter by the Wisconsin legislature. Subsequent investigation, however, developed the fact that several years before a charter had been granted by the legislature of Wisconsin to some parties to build a railroad from a point at or near La Crosse to Point Douglass, opposite Hastings, to be called the La Crosse, Trempealeau, Lake Pepin & Prescott railroad, and that this old charter had been kept alive. Possession of it was obtained, the company reorganized, and Timothy Kirk, Thomas E. Bennett, M. K. Drew, William Mitchell, Thomas Wilson, Thomas Simpson, A. W. Webster, and five men from Trempealeau, were elected directors. Thomas Simpson was elected president; A. W. Webster, vice-president; J. H. Newland, secretary, and Thomas E. Bennett, treasurer. The company began at once to locate the line, obtained right of way, etc., in order to secure vested rights before the Wisconsin legislature could convene and repeal the charter. But no money was to be had. N. F. Hilbert was employed as chief engineer, to be paid whenever the company became able to pay. Others were employed

upon similar terms. To board the force, a subscription in provisions and supplies was taken up among the citizens of Winona. Upon this subscription being read at a large meeting of all interested, the following items appeared together: "P. W. Gaines & Co.,  $\frac{1}{2}$  bbl. whisky. Robert Clapperton, 1 loaf bread."

Wm. Lamb, who had been appointed superintendent of construction, rose and interrupted the reading with the remark that there was altogether too much bread for that quantity of whisky.

The company succeeded in holding their charter, and work was kept up until an agreement was made with parties interested in the Chicago & Northwestern company to complete it and make it a part of that great system, which was done in 1870. The road is still owned and operated by that company, but under the original charter and organization.

*Green Bay, Lake Pepin & Minnesota Railroad.*—In February 1873, a proposition was made by the officers of the above-named road to extend its line from Merrilan, Wisconsin, to Winona, provided the city would grant them a bonus of \$100,000. As the line would form a valuable connection with the lake system of navigation, and also furnish the city directly with many of the products of the Wisconsin forests, a very decided disposition to accept this proposition was manifested by the citizens of Winona. A series of public gatherings terminated in a large meeting of citizens, at which it was determined by a general expression to accept the proposition, President Ketchum, of the railroad company, being present at the meeting. A committee of eight leading citizens was selected and instructed to proceed to St. Paul and procure from the legislature then in session authority for the city to take the necessary steps in granting the required aid. This committee accordingly went to St. Paul and had the proper bill introduced for the purpose, but only one day remaining of the session it failed to pass from lack of time. The committee returned, and the company, learning of the failure to secure legislation, modified their proposition and suggested that the citizens should secure them the sum named by subscription or otherwise. Another meeting of citizens was held, and a committee appointed to wait upon and confer with the city council upon the matter in hand. As the result of such conference the city council, on March 14, 1873, adopted the following resolutions:

"*Be it resolved*, by the city council of the city of Winona, that

fifty thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be practicable, shall be raised for the purpose of securing the terminus of the Green Bay & Lake Pepin railroad at the city of Winona, under and pursuant to the recommendation of the committee appointed by the city council to confer upon said matter, on March 12, 1873.

*"And it is further resolved,* that the city of Winona hereby pledges its faith to repay to each and every person, his heirs or assigns, all sums of money which said person or persons shall advance for that purpose, with interest on the sums so advanced not to exceed the rate of ten per cent per annum; *provided always,* that the obligation so made and taken shall in no event bind the city to such repayment unless the proper legal authority for such repayment be obtained.

*"Resolved,* That the recorder be authorized and is hereby required to have prepared, and to issue and deliver under his hand as recorder and the seal of said city, to each person advancing money for the above purpose, a certificate for all sums so advanced by each person respectively, bearing interest as aforesaid.

*"Resolved,* That as soon as practicable proper legislation authorizing and legalizing the present action of the city council, so far as such legislation may be necessary, or any other needed legislation, shall be obtained."

Upon the basis of this action on the part of the city council a canvassing committee was set at work, and the sum of \$35,000 subscribed by the citizens for the purpose set forth above. The railroad company, upon being notified of the result, finally accepted the situation, and proceeded during the summer and fall of 1873 to build the road as proposed. An act of the legislature authorizing the city to make good its agreement with the subscribers, but unwisely providing for making up the amount to \$50,000 for the company, was approved February 5, 1874, the act providing, however, that the question should be submitted to the people at a general or special election upon five days' notice by publication. A special election was accordingly called for and held on February 23, 1874, which resulted in a defeat of the proposed bonds, largely on account of the provision for making up the sum to be paid the company to \$50,000, the vote standing 275 for to 785 against it. The citizens were justified in this vote for the reason that it was sought to make the city liable for \$15,000 more than the amount of the subscription, a provision in the bill insisted on by the representatives of the

company, but for which the subscribers, almost without exception, were in no way chargeable. Chagrined and disappointed at this result, and there being grave doubt of their legal liability, the subscribers refused to pay their subscriptions; but suits were instituted by the company in the United States circuit court against them, and a test case being carried to a final decision it was held that the subscribers were liable, and the several amounts were accordingly paid over, each subscriber receiving, according to the original agreement, stock of the company to the amount of his subscription, which stock was not and never has become of any considerable value.

There still being a widespread feeling that the subscribers to the bonus had suffered an injustice, another act of the legislature was obtained March 6, 1876, providing for a special election in April of that year to determine whether the city would indemnify the subscribers by an issue of its bonds in the amount of the subscriptions actually paid, the city to take the stock originally issued to the subscribers. Accordingly an election was called and held on April 3, but although every moral, if not legal, obligation rested upon the city to indemnify its public-spirited citizens for the money paid by them to secure a railroad connection of conceded value to the town, the proposition again failed to carry, the vote being 737 for to 1004 against the bonds, and here the matter rests. The road has since practically passed into the hands of John I. Blair, of New Jersey, and its name has been changed to the Green Bay, Winona & St. Paul Railroad Company.

*Winona and Southwestern Railroad.*—In February, 1856, the legislature of the territory incorporated the Winona & La Crosse Railroad Company, with authority to build and operate a railroad from Winona to a point opposite La Crosse, Wisconsin. February 9, 1872, the state legislature passed an act reviving this old charter and amending it so as to incorporate the Winona & Southwestern Railroad Company, composed of the following named persons, viz: William Windom, Thomas Simpson, Wm. H. Yale, J. C. Easton, John Robson, William Mitchell, H. W. Lamberton, M. G. Norton, E. S. Youmans, R. D. Cone, Thomas Wilson, M. K. Drew, E. D. Williams, Geo. P. Wilson, Thomas Abbott and Ignatius O'Ferral, and authorizing the building, equipment and operation of a railroad from Winona to the Iowa line east of range 14 and west of the fifth principal meridian, and also granting the right to extend the



line, by the most feasible route, from Winona to St. Paul and Minneapolis, the road to be completed and equipped within four years from the date of the act.

At a meeting of the incorporators held at Winona April 16, 1872, William Mitchell was elected president; E. D. Williams, vice-president; Thomas Simpson, secretary, and M. G. Norton, treasurer. William Mitchell, John Robson and H. W. Lamberton were made an executive committee, and E. S. Youmans, Ignatius O'Ferral and M. G. Norton were appointed commissioners to receive subscriptions to the stock of the company, to collect five per centum thereon for the expenses of a survey and for the purchase of necessary maps, profiles, etc., for the use of the company. Stock to the amount of \$67,500 was subscribed. At the same session of the legislature an act was passed authorizing the city of Winona and the towns and villages on the proposed line of the road to vote a five per cent tax in aid of the road. Under this authority the city of Winona, on April 9, 1872, at a special election voted bonds to aid in the construction of the road to the amount of \$150,000. Several of the towns in Winona and Fillmore counties, and the village of Chatfield, voted liberal bonuses to the road. Two or more surveys were made under the direction of N. F. Hilbert, one by way of Saratoga and Fremont, the other by way of the Money Creek valley. For a time there was every prospect that the road would be built. It would have furnished an invaluable outlet for the lumber and other products of the Winona manufactories, and would have been a potent element in the growth of the city. The severe financial crisis of 1873, however, and the subsequent hard times, brought delays and embarrassments which prevented the building of the road, and it still remains one of the "glorious possibilities." In 1875 it was voted by the company to accept the proposition of certain Iowa parties to build a narrow-gauge road from Hesper, Iowa, to Houston, Minnesota, provided the company would build a similar road from Winona to Houston. Money was raised and a preliminary survey made, but nothing further came of the project. The charter was extended by the legislature of 1873, and by reason of the surveys and other work done thereunder is considered to be still alive. Both the line to the southwest and the one from Winona to St. Paul are still feasible, and would be valuable to the builders as well as to Winona and the territory through which they would pass.

## CHAPTER XI.

### NAVIGATION.

THE "Father of Waters" forms the eastern boundary of Winona county, and with its various channels and sloughs constitutes the only navigable water in the county. Probably the first white man who traversed the forty-five miles of its length in which we are now interested was Father Hennepin, who in the month of April, 1680, explored the Mississippi from the mouth of the Illinois to the falls of St. Anthony. In the month of May, 1689, Nicholas Perrot, accompanied by Le Sueur, Father Marest and others, sailed up the Mississippi from the mouth of Wisconsin river to the mouth of the St. Croix, and formally took possession of the country in the name of the king of France. In September of the year 1700 Le Sueur passed upward with a party of Frenchmen to explore and work some reported mines near the mouth of the Chippewa river. In the year 1766 that enterprising Connecticut Yankee, Jonathan Carver, traveled extensively in the Northwest, and on October 29 of that year passed by the future county of Winona, noting in his journal some shrewd observations upon the numerous mounds which he saw along the shores and bluffs. In September, 1805, Lieut. Zebulon Pike visited this region by order of President Jefferson, to expel British traders, who were found violating the laws, and to form alliances with the Indians. In the summer of 1819 a party of officers and soldiers, with their wives and children, passed by our county in keelboats on their way to establish a post at the mouth of the Minnesota river, by order of John C. Calhoun, then secretary of war. The next year Gov. Cass of Michigan headed an exploring expedition by way of the lakes, and, descending the Mississippi in canoes, spent the afternoon of August 4 at Wapashaw village, the site of the present city of Winona.

Previous to the year 1823 it had been supposed that the rapids at Rock Island were an insurmountable barrier to the navigation of the upper Mississippi; but on the second day of May of that year the Virginia, a steamer one hundred and eighteen feet in length, left her moorings at St. Louis, destined for Fort Snelling. Successfully passing the rapids, this pioneer craft made her way slowly up

the Mississippi, producing the greatest terror and consternation among the Indians, who supposed that it was some enormous water-spirit, coughing, puffing out hot breath and splashing the water in all directions. This pioneer steamer passed Wabasha prairie toward the last of the month and reached Fort Snelling in safety. From this time occasional trips were made as the necessity of the government and trading-posts required. Among the great number of steamers which have passed and repassed the county in years gone by, all old settlers will remember the Minnesota Belle, Gray Eagle, War Eagle, Northern Belle, Nominee, Ben Corson, The Adelia, Frank Steele, Keokuk, Jeanette, Tishimingo, Annie Johnson, Addie Johnson, Phil. Sheridan, and many others.

Of the captains of all these and other unnamed steamers Capt. Smith Harris and Capt. Orrin Smith are most frequently mentioned. The latter was one of the earliest proprietors and admirers of the town site of Winona, and the former, being interested in Kasota, and other towns on the Minnesota river, was never tired of pointing out the disadvantages of Wabasha prairie. It is said that during the high water in 1852, in order to demonstrate the truth of his statement that Smith's town was on a mere sand-bar in the Mississippi, he ran his boat straight by Minneowah up into Lake Winona, and out across near the Denman farm into Crooked Slough and the river again. Captains Hatcher and Bryant, long in the service, afterward made their homes in Winona. Before the day of railroads great importance attached to the coming and going of these river steamers, which formed the only connection with the outside world. The familiar whistle of a steamboat would frequently cause a stampede even from the church service or prayer meeting, particularly if it was the first boat of the season.

The following table shows the arrivals of the first boat for a period of years commencing with 1856:

1856. Alhambra, April 8.	1870. Keokuk, April 5.
1857. Hamburg, April 2.	1871. Addie Johnston, March 18.
1858. Brazil, March 23.	1872. Belle of La Crosse, April 9.
1859. Grey Eagle, March 18.	1873. Union, April 3.
1860. Chippewa, March 13.	1874. Northwestern, April 6.
1861. Northern Light, March 26.	1875. Lake Superior, April 12.
1862. Keokuk, April 2.	1876. Dubuque, April 10.
1863. Keokuk, March 20.	1877. Red Wing, April 11.
1864. Union, March 16.	1878. Penguin, March 12.
1865. Lansing, March 30.	1879. Maggie Reaney, April 4.
1866. Addie Johnston, April 13.	1880. Belle of Bellvue, March 22.
1867. City of St. Paul, April 13.	1881. Josie, April 24.
1868. Diamond Jo, March 21.	1882. Robert Harris, March 1.
1869. Buckeye, April 6.	

The following table shows the dates of the closing of navigation for a series of years:

1856.....	November 27	1870.....	December 15
1857.....	November 19	1871.....	November 22
1858.....	December 2	1872.....	November 22
1859.....	December 3	1873.....	November 29
1860.....	November 24	1874.....	November 30
1861.....	November 27	1875.....	November 20
1862.....	December 1	1876.....	December 1
1863.....	November 27	1877.....	December 8
1864.....	December 4	1878.....	December 13
1865.....	December 5	1879.....	December 12
1866.....	December 9	1880.....	November 20
1867.....	December 5	1881.....	January 2, 1882
1868.....	December 8	1882.....	December 6
1869.....	December 18		

## CHAPTER XII.

### COURTS AND OFFICERS OF THE COURTS.

THE territorial courts of record were organized under the act of congress passed March 3, 1849, called the "Organic act," supplemented by acts passed from time to time by the territorial legislature. By the organic act three judges were provided for, which were appointed by the president, "by and with the advice and consent of the senate." One was styled "chief-justice," the other two "associate-justices." These together constituted the supreme court, one term of which was required to be held annually at the seat of government of the territory. It was also provided that the territory should "be divided into three judicial districts," in each of which a district court was required to be held by one of the justices of the supreme court, at such times and places as the territorial legislature might prescribe, and that "the said judges shall, after their appointment, respectively, reside in the districts which shall be assigned them." Each district court, or the judge thereof, was by such act empowered to appoint its own clerk, which clerk was to hold his office at the pleasure of the court. The supreme court and district courts were invested with chancery as well as common law jurisdiction. The extent of this jurisdiction of these courts was substantially the same as like courts under the present constitution of the state; that of the several district courts was general. By



act of the territorial legislature the territory now included within the limits of Winona county was made a part of the first judicial district, and so remained until the adoption of the constitution. Previous to February 23, 1854, what is now Winona county was a part of the county of Fillmore. On the day last above named Winona county was formed and organized for judicial and other purposes. Up to this time the writer is not aware that any term of the district court was held in Fillmore county, though all other county business affecting this section, such as filing plats of town sites, recording deeds and the levy of taxes, was done at the county seat of Fillmore county, then located at Chatfield.

At the date of our county organization Hon. Wm. H. Welch was chief-justice of the territory, to whom was assigned the first judicial district. He was therefore the first judge of the district court in and for this county. He resided at Red Wing, in the county of Goodhue. He continued to fill that office until January 1, 1858, when the territorial judicial officers were superseded by judges elected under the state constitution adopted at the fall election in 1857. Much of the good order of our judicial affairs in territorial times, and the ease and regularity with which our state courts were organized and went into effect, were due to this judge. While he was not a man of great learning or superior ability, as the world recognizes learning and ability, yet he had the rare quality in a judge of commanding universal confidence, a feeling among all that the judicial authority was reposed in proper hands. Judge Welch died at his home in Red Wing.

At the fall election in 1857 Hon. Thomas Wilson was chosen as judge of the third judicial district of the state, comprising the counties of Houston, Fillmore, Olmsted, Wabasha and Winona. With the beginning of the year 1858, pursuant to a provision of the state constitution, but before the formal admission of the state by congress Judge Wilson entered upon his duties as judge, and continued to hold until 1864, when, having been appointed to the supreme court, he resigned the office of district judge, and Hon. Lloyd Barber, of Olmsted county, was appointed to fill the vacancy so made. He was elected at the fall election in 1864, for the full term of seven years, and held the office until succeeded by Hon. C. N. Waterman, January 4, 1872. Judge Waterman held the office until his death, which occurred February 18, 1873, and was succeeded by Hon. John Van Dyke, who was appointed for the

remainder of the year 1873. At the fall election of that year Hon. Wm. Mitchell was elected for the full term of seven years, from the beginning of 1874. He discharged the duties during this term, and in 1880 was re-elected for another term, to commence with the ensuing year. At the session of the legislature of 1881 the number of judges composing the supreme court was increased to five. This made it necessary that two judges should be appointed to the supreme court until after the next ensuing general election. Judge Mitchell was selected as one of the new judges, and Hon. C. M. Start, then attorney-general of the state, but residing in the third judicial district, at Rochester, Olmsted county, was appointed district judge, to succeed Judge Mitchell. At the general election in November, 1881, Judge Start was elected for a full term, commencing with the year 1882. At this writing, January 1, 1883, Judge Start is in the discharge of his official duties.

Of the seven judges who have presided in our district courts, three, Judge Welch, Judge Waterman and Judge Van Dyke, are dead. All the others are still living within the district, and engaged in the duties of their profession.

*Clerks.*—As before stated, during our territorial existence clerks of district courts held by appointment of the judge and during his pleasure. The first clerk of the district court in and for Winona county was Martin Wheeler Sargeant. He was appointed by Judge Welch in 1854, and held until superseded by the appointment of John Keyes, on or about July 14, 1856. The record of Mr. Keyes' appointment cannot be found, but his first official act as clerk bears date on that day. Mr. Keyes continued to hold the office until after the admission of the state to the Union under the state organization, his last official act as clerk bearing date May 25, 1858. Under the constitution the office of clerk was made elective, and at the general election in October, 1857, Henry C. Lester was elected clerk, and entered on the discharge of his duties on the retirement of Mr. Keyes. He held the office until April 27, 1861. He resigned to enter the volunteer service of the United States in the war of the rebellion. He was succeeded by E. A. Gerdtzen, who was appointed in place of Col. Lester until the next general election, at which he was elected, and by subsequent elections held without interruption for nearly seventeen years. In November, 1877, John M. Sheardown was elected, has been re-elected, and still holds the office.

Of the five persons who have held the office, two, Mr. Sargeant and Mr. Keyes, are deceased; Col. Lester has removed from the state, while Messrs. Gerdtsen and Sheardown still reside at the city of Winona.

*District and County Attorneys.*—Under the territorial organization, the United States attorney, as he was called, usually attended at the sessions of the district courts, and performed most of the duties now devolving upon county attorneys. An officer called a district attorney was also provided for by territorial statute, and was elected in each of the organized counties. In the act organizing the county of Winona, approved February 23, 1854, such officer was to be elected at an election to be held in April of that year. The election was duly held, and C. F. Buck, Esq., then residing at Minneowa, was elected. We may say in passing that the village of Minneowa was a rival of Winona for metropolitan honors, and stood on the Mississippi river, about one mile above the present village of Homer. The curious in such matters may still find some traces of it on the river bank, and especially in the office of the register of deeds, where the plat was recorded. Its proprietors were Isaac Van Etten, William L. Ames, brother of Oakes Ames, of *credit mobilier* and Union Pacific railroad fame, Governor Willis A. Gorman, and S. R. Babcock, all of St. Paul. The fact is noteworthy as showing the confidence of shrewd and far-seeing men in the then future existence of the city of southern Minnesota at or near this point. Their selection was probably made more from an examination of the territorial map than of the respective sites of Minneowa and Winona. If not, time has demonstrated that, however close they shot to the mark in this their judgment was slightly at fault. But to return to the district attorney. Mr. Buck held the office until the beginning of 1856. Edwin M. Bierce had been elected in the fall of 1855, and held the office during the years 1856 and 1857. By the constitution adopted in that year it was provided that "each judicial district might elect one prosecuting attorney for the district." Under this provision Sam Cole, Esq., was elected "prosecuting attorney" for the third judicial district, comprising the counties of Houston, Fillmore, Olmsted, Wabasha and Winona. Although this office was wholly unknown to territorial laws, continued in force by the constitution, and no state legislation had been had to supply the deficiency, still Mr. Cole, as

an officer of the courts, qualified with the judges at the beginning of the year 1858. As no legislation was ever had upon the subject of the duties of this office, we shall probably continue in ignorance as to what they were. Practically Mr. Cole did about what the United States attorney had done in territorial times, and which comprised about all that was required under the statutes of the district attorney. The effect of it was in a large degree to supersede the last-named officer, and for two years no district attorney was elected in Winona county. In this county at least the constitution operated as an extinguishment of the office.

By act of February 6, 1860, the office of county attorney as now existing was created. Under this act the board of supervisors of Winona county, on the 15th day of March, 1860, appointed one A. S. Seaton county attorney, who held the office until the 1st of January, 1861.

At the general election in 1860 Hon. William H. Yale was elected, and held the office one term of two years. On the 1st of January, 1863, he was succeeded by Hon. William Mitchell, who was county attorney during the years 1863 and 1864. Mr. Yale, in the fall of 1864, was re-elected, and held during the years 1865 and 1866. He was succeeded at the beginning of 1867 by Hon. George P. Wilson who, by re-election was continued in office until the beginning of 1871, when he was succeeded by Norman Buck. Mr. Buck held during the years 1873 and 1874, and was succeeded by A. H. Snow, Esq., who by re-election held from the beginning of 1875 to the 1st of January, 1879. Mr. A. N. Bentley then succeeded for one term, followed by Mr. M. B. Webber, one term, closing with 1882. At the fall election in 1882 Mr. Patrick Fitzpatrick was elected, and now holds the office. Of the twelve persons who have held these offices, only one (Mr. Cole) is known to have died. Both A. S. Seaton and E. M. Bierce left this county about 1860, since which little or nothing seems to be known of either. Mr. Buck is now associate justice of the territory of Idaho. Hon. George P. Wilson is following his profession at Fargo, Dakota Territory. All others still reside in the city of Winona.

*Sheriffs.*—The first sheriff of the county was John James. He was elected on the first Tuesday in April, 1854. He was succeeded by Charles Eaton, who was elected in the fall of 1855, and held the office for two years. At the election in 1857 Mr. F. E. Whiton was elected, and held during the years 1858 and 1859. At the fall elec-



tion in 1859 Messrs. L. R. King and E. D. Williams were opposing candidates for this office. The canvass was close and spirited, and the register of deeds, whose duty it was "to canvass the votes," was unable to determine which had been the successful candidate. The greatest number of votes cast at the election for one office was 2,023. As allowed by the register, the whole number of votes cast for both candidates for sheriff was 1,970. In reaching this result votes were rejected as irregular, and the conclusion was arrived at that each candidate had received 985, making it "a tie." It thus became necessary to decide "by lot" which of the candidates was elected. Various stories were told as to how this "casting of lots" was performed—one to the effect that a game of "euchre" was played between two persons, each representing one of the opposing candidates. The writer cannot affirm that such was the fact, though the circumstantiality of the account, other things considered, gives it some weight. But, however the lot was cast, Mr. King was declared elected, and to him was awarded the certificate. The case was then taken by appeal to the district court, Judge Wilson presiding. After a long and patient hearing the decision of the canvassing officer was affirmed, and Mr. King was declared sheriff. By re-election from term to term he held the office without interruption for eight years. J. F. Martin was his successor, beginning with the year 1868. Mr. Martin was twice re-elected and held for six years, and was succeeded at the close of 1873 by Wm. H. Dill. Mr. Dill was re-elected three times in succession, and held the office in all eight years, ending with the year 1881. Mr. E. V. Bogart succeeded and is now (1883) in office. Ex-Sheriffs Iames, Whiton and King are deceased.

*Probate Courts.*—By the act of congress organizing the territory probate courts were established. A special election, to be held in April, 1854, was authorized for the election of county officers by act organizing the county of Winona. A judge of probate was one of the officers to be elected. Andrew Cole was elected. He held the office until January 1, 1855, when he was succeeded by Alfred P. Foster. Mr. Foster filled the office until October 10, 1856, when it was made vacant by the removal of Judge Foster from the territory, and on that date Sam Cole was appointed to fill the vacancy. E. H. Murray succeeded by election, and held during the years 1857 and 1858, followed by Warren Powers, who was elected in the fall of 1858. By re-election Judge Powers held until his death, which occurred in June, 1865. He was succeeded by Mr. Norman Buck,

who was appointed to fill the vacancy in July of that year. In the fall of 1865 Judge Buck was elected. He held the office until the fall of 1867, when he resigned, and was succeeded for the remainder of the year by appointment of C. N. Wakefield. At the general election in the fall of 1868 Jacob Story was elected to the office. Judge Story has been re-elected at the expiration of each succeeding term, and is still the incumbent of the office. Aside from Mr. E. A. Gerdtsen's tenure of the office of clerk of the district court, which was about seventeen years, Judge Story has enjoyed a longer official term than any other officer of Winona county.

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## CHAPTER XIII.

### BANKING IN WINONA COUNTY.

As is generally the case in new towns, several branches of business are conducted by the same person or firm. It was so in Winona in the banking business. The United States land office for the Winona land district, having been opened in Winona in December, 1854, land agents, money loaners and speculators in real estate soon followed.

The first office of this kind was opened in June in 1855, by William Ashley Jones, Charles H. Berry and E. S. Smith, under the firm name of Jones, Berry & Smith. They were succeeded by Berry & Waterman, who added to their law business that of receiving deposits and selling exchange on different points. This was done more as a convenience to others than of profit to themselves. This was continued until others engaged in more exclusive banking business.

Early in 1856 Timothy Kirk and his brother had a banking office on the corner of Front and Main streets.

John Mobley opened a banking and exchange office near the corner of Second and Main streets in 1856, and did considerable business for some two years, and retired in 1858.

J. T. Smith had an exchange and loan office, in 1856 or 1857, on Center street, between First and Second streets. He was here about three years.

Voight & Bergenthal had a banking and loan office, in 1856 and 1857, on Front street, near where Krumdich's elevator now stands.

*Bennett's Bank.*—In the fall of 1855 Thomas E. Bennett opened a bank and loan office, and succeeded to the business of Voight & Bergenthal, in a building on the levee. In the winter following Taylor, Richards & Burden purchased Bennett's business, and in May, 1857, the firm was changed to Taylor, Bennett & Co., and in 1858 it was again changed to Burden, Bennett & Co., and in 1859 was dissolved and the business was continued in the name of Thomas E. Bennett until 1861.

*Bank of Southern Minnesota.*—The Bank of Southern Minnesota was organized in 1861. Lemuel C. Porter, Thos. E. Bennett, Wm. Garlock and others were stockholders and directors. L. C. Porter was made president and Thomas E. Bennett cashier. This bank was merged in the First National bank in August, 1864.

*The Bank of Winona.*—This bank was located on Center street, in the building now occupied by the Winona Deposit Bank. Bank of Winona commenced business in May, 1863, Samuel McCord and H. N. Peabody being the principal partners, and the manager was I. Voswinkle Dorselin. Subsequently the business was done under the name of McCord & Dorselin. In December, 1868, Dorselin, appearing to be the owner of the concern, closed business and went into bankruptcy. On the final winding up of business, in August, 1869, it paid its creditors about twenty-five cents on a dollar.

*The United National Bank.*—The United National Bank was organized in 1865, with Thomas Wilson, Otto Troost, Charles Benson, A. W. Webster and Thomas E. Bennett as stockholders and directors, with a capital of \$50,000. A. W. Webster was president and Thomas E. Bennett cashier.

This bank was located on Second street, in the building since used by the Savings Bank, and in January, 1871, was sold out by its stockholders to the First National Bank of Winona.

*The Winona Deposit Bank* was organized and commenced business in 1868. H. W. Lamberton was president and I. J. Cummings cashier. It was a private bank, and changed to a national organization under the name of Winona Deposit National Bank, in which name the business was conducted two or three years, when they discontinued the national organization and returned to the original

name of Winona Deposit Bank. Its present officers are H. W. Lamberton, president, and W. C. Brown, cashier.

*Winona County Bank.*—Zaphna H. Lake and A. W. Webster organized the Winona County Bank in 1859, and they filed their organization papers and deposited Minnesota railroad bonds with the state auditor to secure the payment of their circulating notes under the then existing laws of the state. This was the first and only bank having circulation in Winona. They did a straightforward, legitimate banking business for several years, and went out of business in 1865. Mr. Webster took part in the organization of the United National Bank, and Mr. Lake engaged in other business in Winona. Their banking office was near the corner of Second and Main streets.

*The Bank of St. Charles*, at St. Charles, Winona county, was organized as a private bank in the spring of 1869, with a capital of \$30,000. The stockholders were E. S. Youmans, of Winona; S. T. Hyde, J. S. Wheeler, J. W. Brockett, of St. Charles, and H. R. Heath, of New York city. The stockholders were directors. E. S. Youmans was president and J. S. Wheeler was cashier.

J. C. Woodard, in June, 1877, succeeded to the Bank of St. Charles, and the business is now conducted in the name of J. C. Woodard, banker.

*The First National Bank of Winona* (successor to the Bank of Southern Minnesota) was organized August 20, 1864, with a capital of \$50,000. The original stockholders were Thomas E. Bennett, Gabriel Horton, Lemuel C. Porter, George W. Neff, William Garlock, William Wedel, each of whom was elected a director. In October, 1864, at a meeting of the directors the following officers were elected, viz: L. C. Porter, president; William Garlock, vice-president; Thomas E. Bennett, cashier. L. C. Porter has been elected president at each annual meeting of the directors since the organization of the bank to this time, a period of eighteen years. The following persons have been elected cashiers at different times since 1866: I. J. Cummings, G. A. Burbank, Herman E. Curtis, C. H. Porter and E. D. Hurlbert, who is now filling that position. William Garlock resigned the office of vice-president in 1868. C. H. Porter was elected vice-president in 1881, and is at this time filling that office.

*Second National Bank.*—The Second National Bank of Winona was organized April 29, 1871, with a capital of \$100,000. The



incorporators were Thomas Simpson, John H. Prentiss, Joseph A. Prentiss, Henry Stevens, Mark Willson, Gustavus A. Burbank and W. H. Richardson. Each of the above stockholders was elected a director, and the bank engaged in active business in August, 1871, with the following officers: Thomas Simpson, president; G. A. Burbank, cashier. Mr. Burbank resigned in October, 1871, and Mark Willson was elected assistant cashier, and in February, 1872, E. H. Bailey became cashier.

In January, 1873, Joseph A. Prentiss was chosen cashier and Mark Willson vice-president. In January, 1875, Mr. Willson resigned and Lester R. Brooks became vice-president, and in 1876 was made cashier. In 1878 Thomas Simpson resigned his position as president, which he had filled from the first organization of the bank, and was succeeded by Joseph A. Prentiss. In 1880 William H. Garlock was chosen cashier and L. R. Brooks vice-president, who, with J. A. Prentiss, president, are the present officers.

*The Merchants National Bank of Winona* was organized May 18, 1875, with a capital stock of \$100,000, and at the first meeting of the stockholders the following persons were elected directors: Mark Willson, G. W. Bennett, N. F. Hilbert, H. D. Perkins, C. H. Berry, Conrad Bohn and C. C. Beck. Mark Willson, president; N. F. Hilbert, cashier; H. D. Perkins, vice-president.

The bank opened for business in July 1875. On April 9, 1879, N. F. Hilbert resigned his position as cashier, and was succeeded by J. M. Bell. July 1, 1879, it was voted to change the organization from a national to a state bank under the laws of Minnesota, and to transfer its entire business to the new organization.

*The Merchants Bank of Winona* succeeded to the Merchants National Bank, and was organized in August, 1879, with the following directors: Charles H. Berry, H. D. Perkins, J. M. Bell, Mark Willson, C. C. Beck, L. J. Allred and C. Heintz, and who proceeded to the election of officers, as follows: Mark Willson, president; J. M. Bell, cashier; H. D. Perkins, vice-president.

In December, 1879, J. M. Bell tendered his resignation as cashier, which was accepted, and Geo. F. Crise was elected in his place. The officers of the bank at this time are Mark Willson, president; Chas. H. Berry, vice-president, and Geo. F. Crise, cashier.

*The Winona Savings Bank* was organized July 1, 1874, and lasted five years. The depositors were notified to withdraw their

deposits July 1, 1879, and were paid in full, principal and interest. The trustees were William Mitchell, W. H. Laird, H. E. Curtis, F. A. Rising, Thomas Wilson, E. S. Youmans and C. J. Camp. The officers were Wm. Mitchell, president; W. H. Laird, vice-president; F. A. Rising, treasurer.

The bank was located on Second street, in the old United National Bank building.

The foregoing is believed to be a correct history of banks and of the banking business in Winona county since its early settlement. It is possible that other parties and facts have been overlooked, but the writer has endeavored to include everything pertaining to the subject.

From the time the first deposits were received and the first drafts on eastern banks were drawn by Berry & Waterman, in 1855, the banking business has grown with the increased mercantile and manufacturing business of Winona in proportion until this time. We have now in this city, in successful operation, four banks, two of which are working under the national banking laws, one under state organization, and one a private bank.

The whole amount of capital invested at this time in the banking business in Winona county aggregates \$250,000, not including surplus and undivided profits.

The amount of deposits in the banks in Winona is about \$900,000, and bills discounted are about the same amount. The rates of interest charged by the banks are from seven to ten per cent per annum.

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## CHAPTER XIV.

### GENERAL HISTORY OF WINONA COUNTY—ITS EARLY SETTLEMENT, PIONEERS, ETC.

THE local history of this county, as an organization, hardly extends beyond the personal recollections of the present generation. Many of its earliest settlers are yet residents of this locality. Less than a third of a century ago the country lying west of the Mississippi in the State of Minnesota was the almost exclusive domain of bands of savages—the possessions of the aborigines, occupied by the

same race and by the same nation of people who held it when the western continent was first discovered.

Its early settlement by the pioneer successors of this savage race was begun somewhat after the same general plan, although on a very much smaller scale, of that adopted by the Europeans in their first occupancy of North America. They made claims and held them by their rights of discovery. This part of the country was first discovered and held in possession by the French.

To maintain a proper connection with the past, a brief synopsis of historical events relative to this section of country, prior to the time this county was created, has been compiled as an introductory chapter to this record of events and incidents of more modern times.

After the discovery of the western continent, the maritime nations of Europe sent out expeditions to make explorations. The parts of the continent first visited in these voyages were taken possession of in the name of the government represented. When these explorations were extended inland the localities were claimed by the same powers. It was in this manner that the whole Mississippi valley became at one time a part of the foreign possessions of France, acquired by their rights of discovery and held by their power as a nation.

In 1534 Jacques Cartier, a French navigator, discovered the Gulf of St. Lawrence and sailed up the St. Lawrence river, supposing from its size and depth that he had found the western passage to the Indian ocean, for which he was seeking. He claimed the newly discovered country in the name of the sovereign of France. As an emblem of his first discovery, and as a symbol of possession, he erected a large wooden cross on a conspicuous elevation of land. This was the first claim mark of France in this part of North America.

The French afterward extended their explorations west\*to the great lakes, assuming possession in their progress. It was not until 1654 that they reached the region of Lake Superior. The real explorers of this part of the country were the fur traders. They advanced with their traffic as far west as Green Bay in 1659.

In these expeditions, from the time the cross was erected by Cartier, these adventurous explorers were usually accompanied by zealous representatives of different orders in the Roman Catholic church, apparently to maintain religious advantages coequal with the civil and military authority claimed over the extended possessions.

Father Joseph Marquette accompanied Louis Jolliet with five French or Canadian voyageurs up the Fox river from Green Bay. Crossing the portage to the Wisconsin river they descended it to its mouth and discovered the Mississippi river on June 17, 1673.

To Father Marquette has been given the honor of having been the first to discover the upper Mississippi. The river had, however, been visited by Europeans prior to this date. In 1541 the lower Mississippi was crossed by Hernando de Soto, a Spanish adventurer, in his exploration of that part of the country.

In 1679 Father Louis Hennepin accompanied Robert La Salle on his expedition along the shores of Lake Michigan to Illinois, where he spent the winter. In the following spring, 1680, he was intrusted by La Salle to make explorations. With two French voyageurs he went down the Illinois river to its mouth, and then ascended the Mississippi. On his voyage up this river he was made prisoner by a war party of Dakota Indians and taken into the Mille Lac region, on the headwaters of the Mississippi. He was here found by Du-Luth, who was exploring the country of the Dakotas by way of Lake Superior. Father Hennepin visited the Falls of St. Anthony, to which he gave its present name. He was the first to explore the Mississippi above the mouth of the Wisconsin, and the first white man that ever visited the vicinity of this county.

In 1682 La Salle descended the Illinois to its junction with the Mississippi, down which he continued until he entered the Gulf of Mexico. He took possession of the country through which he passed in the name of France, and gave it the name of Louisiana.

In the spring of 1683 Capt. Nicholas Perrot, a Canadian, with twenty men, established a fort or trading-post in what is now the State of Minnesota, below and near the mouth of Lake Pepin. This was the first location occupied by a white man on the west side of the Mississippi. It was soon abandoned by Perrot to carry on his traffic elsewhere. In 1688 he returned with forty men, and again took possession of his trading-post below Lake Pepin.

In 1689 Capt. Nicholas Perrot, in the name of the king of France, by formal proclamation took possession of all of the country on the headwaters of the Mississippi. Not long afterward the whole country from the Alleghanies to the Pacific ocean was claimed by the French and called the territory of Louisiana.

This territory remained in possession of France until 1760, when the country west of the Mississippi was ceded to Spain, and in 1763



all of the country east of the Mississippi claimed by the French was formally ceded to Great Britain.

In 1800 the country west of the Mississippi known as Louisiana was retroceded to France, and in 1803 the United States acquired possession of it by purchase from the French government.

By act of congress in 1804 Louisiana was divided; the southern part was called the territory of Orleans, the northern portion the district of Louisiana.

In 1812 Orleans was admitted into the Union under the title of State of Louisiana, and the district of Louisiana given the name of Territory of Missouri.

In 1821 the Territory of Missouri was divided; from the southern portion the Territory of Arkansas was formed, and the State of Missouri created and admitted.

The country north of the State of Missouri was left without territorial organization. In 1834 it was placed under the jurisdiction of the Territory of Michigan, and in 1837 under the judicial authority of the Territory of Wisconsin.

In 1838 the Territory of Iowa was created. It embraced all of the country north of the State of Missouri between the Mississippi and Missouri rivers to the northern line.

The State of Iowa was constituted from the southern part of this territory and admitted in 1846. The northern portion was left without territorial organization until by act of congress, March 3, 1849, the Territory of Minnesota was created.

The largest portion of this territory, that lying west of the Mississippi, was the northeastern part of the "Louisiana Purchase." The portion lying on the east side of the river was a part of the territory of Wisconsin not included in the boundaries of the State of Wisconsin when admitted in 1848.

The territory of Minnesota, when organized, was without divisions, except two or three counties on the east side of the Mississippi, which had been created while they were a part of the Territory of Wisconsin.

By proclamation Governor Ramsey divided the territory into three judicial districts. The country west of the Mississippi and south of the Minnesota formed the third judicial district, to which Judge Cooper was assigned. The first court was held at Mendota in August, 1849.

Governor Ramsey, by proclamation, made the first apportion-

ment of council districts. The settlements on the west bank of the Mississippi, south of the Crow village to the Iowa line, were included with a part of St. Croix county on the east side of the river and constituted the first council district. The settlements on the west side of the river were of half-breed Sioux.

The first territorial legislature held its session in St. Paul, the capital of the territory. It began on September 3 and adjourned on November 1, 1849. The members from the first council district were: James S. Norris, in the council; Joseph W. Furber and James Wells, in the house. David Olmsted, of Long Prairie, was president of the council; Joseph W. Furber, of Cottage Grove, speaker of the house.

James Wells was the first representative to the territorial legislature from the country along the west side of the Mississippi. He was an Indian trader living on the shores of Lake Pepin, twelve miles below Red Wing. Among his friends and associates he was generally known as "Bully Wells." He was elected by the half-breeds and a few traders and government employés at the election held on August 1. The total votes polled were thirty-three. At this election Hon. H. H. Sibley was elected delegate to congress without opposition.

The first territorial legislature, at its session in 1849 (October 27), created several counties, two of which, Dakota and Wabasha on the west side of the Mississippi, included all of the territory south of the Minnesota river—Wabasha in the eastern part and Dakota lying west along the Minnesota.

In 1853 (March 5) the county of Wabasha was divided by act of the territorial legislature and a part of the southern portion designated as Fillmore county. In 1854 (February 23) Fillmore county was divided, and from the portion along the river the counties of Houston and Winona were created—Houston next to the Iowa line and Winona between Houston and Wabasha counties. The boundaries given Winona county in the act by which it was created have since been maintained unchanged. These outlines of history generalize this county from the days of the advent of the first white man to the present time, a period of little more than two hundred years.

In this abstract of jurisdiction an omission has been made—the proprietary of this part of the country before it was so formally taken possession of by Captain Perrot. At the time France assumed control it was held by tribes of savage Indians. Of them, prior to

that period, but little is known with any degree of certainty. Having no written records their earliest traditions have long been forgotten, their more modern history only known by its connections with that of their successors, the white race.

Traditions, with mounds and relics antedating traditionary lore, afford speculative study for the antiquary, and present corroborative evidence to the historian that in the unknown periods of the past this section of country was inhabited, and that its population was *probably* of the Indian race. Their first occupancy is veiled in dark obscurity. Their rights of possession have, however, been continuously acknowledged and recognized from the time jurisdiction was claimed for France in 1689 until the treaty by which their lands west of the Mississippi, in what is now the State of Minnesota, were purchased and ceded to the United States, when their title was formally transferred to their successors.

The Dakota nation, which held this country, was probably one of the largest warlike nations of the aborigines of North America. When first visited by Europeans their territory extended from Lake Superior to the Rocky Mountains. This Indian nation was composed of numerous general divisions and subdivisions or bands, having a language common to all (only varied by dialects), with manners, customs, etc., differing but little in different localities. Although united as a confederacy for common defense or warlike purposes, each division held a separate interest in the localities they occupied.

The eastern division of the Dakota nation was the Mdaywakan-tonwan, or Spirit Lake villagers. It was this division that made prisoner of Father Hennepin in 1680. At that time they were in possession of the country on the east side of the Mississippi to Lake Superior. The country south of the lake was held by the Ojibways, who were the first to hold communication with the traders. They were the first supplied with fire-arms, which gave them such an advantage over the more warlike Sioux that they drove them back and took possession of their homes in the Mille Lac region. The Sioux were forced to the southward and westward, but successfully maintained their lands on the west side of the Mississippi, and a strip along the east side, from about a hundred and fifty miles above the Falls of St. Anthony to about one hundred and fifty miles below.

There were seven bands in this division. The villages of three of them were on the Mississippi, below the falls; the others were on the lower part of the Minnesota river.

## CHAPTER XV.

### TREATIES WITH THE INDIANS.

By treaty in 1805, through Lieut. Pike, the first representative of our government that visited this part of the "Louisiana purchase," this division of Sioux made the first sale of any of their lands. For the establishment of military posts the United States purchased from them a section of country nine miles square, on each side of the Mississippi, which included the Falls of St. Anthony and the present site of Fort Snelling. A section of country nine miles square, at the mouth of the St. Croix, was also secured for the same purpose. It was not until several years after that this purchase was utilized by government. The corner-stone of Fort Snelling was laid on the 10th of September, 1820, but it was not occupied by soldiers until the following year. The site was first taken possession of by Col. Leavenworth with a company of soldiers in 1819.

The transportation of troops, supplies, material, etc., for the fort was principally by keelboats, which at that time, and for some time afterward, were used in the navigation of the Upper Mississippi. The trip from St. Louis to this point was a long and tedious one. The first steamboat that ever came up the Mississippi to Fort Snelling at the mouth of the Minnesota river was a stern-wheel boat called the *Virginia*, in 1823.

By treaty in 1830 government secured from this part of the Sioux nation the section of country known as the "Half-breed Tract," for the benefit or exclusive use of their descendants of mixed blood. This tract of land was on the west side of the Mississippi and Lake Pepin, fifteen miles wide, and extending down the river, from Barn Bluff, near Red Wing, thirty-two miles, to a point opposite Beef river, below the present village of Wabasha.

In 1837 a deputation of chiefs of this division of Dakotas was induced to visit Washington, where they made a treaty by which they "ceded to the United States all their lands east of the Mississippi river, and all of their islands in said river." This treaty was ratified by the senate on the 17th of July, 1838, when the Sioux removed all of their bands to the west side of the Mississippi.



Until 1851 the Mdaywakantonwan Sioux were the only division of the Dakota nation with whom the United States had made formal treaty stipulations for the sale of any part of their lands. They were the only branch of the whole Sioux confederacy who received annuities from the government. Under the treaty of 1837 they received annually, for twenty years from the date of the treaty, \$10,000 in money, \$10,000 in goods, \$5,500 in provisions, and \$8,250 "in the purchase of medicines, agricultural implements and stock and for the support of a physician, farmers and blacksmiths, and for other beneficial objects." In the first article of this treaty it was provided that a portion of the interest on the whole sum invested—\$5,000 annually—was "to be applied in such manner as the president may direct." This occasioned some trouble, as it was proposed to expend this sum for the purposes of education, schools, etc., which the Indians strongly opposed. This fund was not used, but allowed to accumulate until the treaty of 1851 before settlement was effected and the amount paid over to them.

At that time these seven bands comprised a population of about 2,200 in number. The nominal head chief of the division was Wabasha, who was also chief of a band. His village was at Wabasha Prairie, and had a population of about 300. The Red Wing band—chief, Wakoota—numbered about 300; the Kaposia band—chief, Little Crow—had about 400; the Black Dog band—chief, Gray Iron—had 250; Cloud Man's band, at Lake Calhoun, 250; Good Road's band, about 300; Six's band—chief, Shakopee—about 450. The last four bands named were on lower part of the Minnesota river.

By treaties made in 1851 the Sioux sold their lands in what is now the State of Minnesota. The Sisseton and Wahpaton divisions in the west, called the "upper bands," signed the treaty at Traverse des Sioux, July 23, 1851, and the "lower bands," the Wahpakoota and Mdaywakantonwan divisions, signed the treaty at Mendota, August 5, 1851.

These treaties were amended by the senate at Washington the following year. The amendment was ratified by the "lower bands" at St. Paul, September 4, 1852. The treaties as amended were formally ratified by the president's proclamation, dated February 24, 1853.

By this sale the Dakotas relinquished possession of their lands in this vicinity—their title to it, held from time unknown, was extinguished for ever. Prior to this, occupancy of these lands by

the whites was considered trespass, except by special permit or license from government.

After the treaty in 1851, and before its ratification, settlements were made or commenced by the whites, without action on the part of the government, and without much show of opposition from the Sioux. It was during this period that the first bona-fide settlements were made within the boundaries of what is now known as Winona county. Previous to this, however, Indian traders and government employés had located temporarily at different places along the Mississippi, some of whom remained and afterward became citizens of the county.

The Mississippi river is the eastern boundary of this county, and from time immemorial has been what may be called the grand highway between the north and the south, and, through its tributaries, the means of communication between the east and the west. Over its waters the savages paddled their canoes, and the Canadian voyageurs propelled their batteaux. It was the course over which the early traders carried on their traffic. Their goods, brought from the east by way of the great lakes, and down the Wisconsin river, were transported up the Mississippi to their trading stations in the north. The furs for which they were exchanged were returned over the same route. With the increase of this commercial business Prairie du Chien became the emporium of the fur-traders, and held its importance for nearly a century.

During this period French names were given by the traders and voyageurs to persons, places and things which were in common use, the names designative of localities which served as landmarks in their adventurous expeditions being the most important.

There are not more than one or two localities in this county that can now be identified by the names thus given, and in no instance has the name been preserved.

The most familiar, if not the only locality, is that of the prairie on which the city of Winona is now situated. This was designated as the "Prairie aux Aile," the literal translation of which is the "Wing Prairie." Its signification is unknown except as a matter of opinion.

This prairie and vicinity was the home of one of the most influential of the Dakota chiefs. It was the grand gathering-place of his once numerous warriors. The Dakota name of this chief was Wa-pa-ha-sa. It was hereditary. Besides being chief of his own

band, he was the head chief of the bands along the Mississippi. These official positions were also hereditary. The early voyageurs gave him the name of Wa-pa-sa. The more modern traders and river men called him Wa-ba-shaw, and gave the same name to the prairie on which his village was located. It was known as Wabashaw prairie until the name was superseded by Winona, its present one. Winona (Wee-no-nah) is a Dakota name, signifying a daughter, the first-born child. It is a name usually given to the first-born child, if a daughter, and never conferred upon a locality by the Sioux. The name was selected by the early settlers on Wabasha prairie as the name of the post-office established there, and was afterward adopted by the town proprietors for the village. When the county was created the same name was conferred upon it.

The following story in Neil's History of Minnesota gives another name to Wabasha prairie. The story is apparently founded on the Dakota legend of Maiden's rock, on the eastern shore of Lake Pepin. This is the only instance known where the name of "Keoxa" has ever been given to Wabasha's village on this prairie. It is indeed a query whether it is a Dakota name.

"In the days of the great chief Wapashaw there lived at the village of Keoxa, which stood at the site of the town which now bears her name, a maiden with a loving soul. She was the first-born daughter, and, as is always the case in a Dahkotch family, she bore the name of Weenonah. A young hunter of the same band was never happier than when he played the flute in her hearing. Having thus signified his affection, it was with the whole heart reciprocated. The youth begged from his friends all that he could, and went to her parents, as is the custom, to purchase her for his wife, but his proposals were rejected.

"A warrior who had often been on the war-path, whose head-dress plainly told the number of scalps he had wrenched from Ojibway heads, had also been to the parents, and they thought that she would be more honored as an inmate of his teepee.

"Weenonah, however, could not forget her first love, and though he had been forced away, his absence strengthened her affections. Neither the attentions of the warrior, nor the threats of parents, nor the persuasions of friends could make her consent to marry simply for position.

"One day the band came to Lake Pepin to fish or hunt. The dark green foliage, the velvet sward, the beautiful expanse of



*C. L. Bonner*





water, the shady nooks, made it a place to utter the breathings of love. The warrior sought her once more and begged her to accede to her parents' wish and become his wife, but she refused with decision.

"While the party was feasting Weenonah clambered to the lofty bluff, and then told to those who were below how crushed she had been by the absence of the young hunter and the cruelty of her friends. Then chaunting a wild death-song, before the fleetest runner could reach the height she dashed herself down, and that form of beauty was in a moment a mass of broken limbs and bruised flesh.

"The Dahkotchah as he passes the rock feels that the spot is Wawkawn."

The name of Wabasha rightfully belonged to this locality. Its alienation was not from premeditated design. Before Wabasha prairie was settled, or even a white settler had located in what is now Winona county, the settlement on the "half-breed tract" was called Wabasha. The first postoffice along the river was established there and given the name of Wabasha postoffice, although it was for a while at Reed's Landing. It having been thus appropriated, but little effort was ever made to reclaim it. But few of the settlers cared about preserving or adopting it in a second-hand condition.

When keelboats and steamboats took the place of the canoes and batteaux in the navigation of the river, the names conferred on localities by the Dakotas and French were quite generally dropped, and less expressive ones usually substituted. Where Dakota or French names have been retained in this state, they have in very many instances been so modified by "Yankee improvements" that it is difficult to trace their derivation.

In this county no distinctive name of locality or landmark given by the French has been retained. Neither is there a single instance where the name given by the Dakotas to mountain or stream, hill, valley or prairie, has been preserved and is now in use by the whites. Nothing designated by the Sioux, the immediate predecessors of the present generation, is now known by its Dakota name.

It is not so much a matter of surprise that Indian names have not been retained, or that they are now unknown to the present inhabitants of the county, if the abruptness of the change of occupants is taken into consideration. When the Sioux relinquished possession of their lands here they at once left this vicinity. The

white settlers found the country without a population. The two races were strangers—unknown to each other; no association or intercourse ever existed between them.

There are two or three instances where the English interpretation has been substituted for the original Dakota. White Water is the name of a river which runs through the northern part of the county. It is the translation of the Dakota "Minne-ska," signifying "White Water." The village at the mouth of that stream in Wabasha county is called Minneiska. The name of Rolling Stone is another instance. This is an interpretation of the name given by the Dakotas to the Rolling Stone Creek, "Eyan-omen-man-met-pah," the literal translation of which is "the stream where the stone rolls." Its true signification is not known. It was called by the French traders of more modern times "Roche que le Boule." These names were obtained from O. M. Lord, who acquired them from Gen. Sibley.

Wabasha and the most of his people left their homes on the Mississippi in 1852. Nothing marks the localities in this county as evidence of where, for so many generations, their race once lived. Even the old and deeply worn trails, over which they filed away toward the setting sun, are now, like the wakes of their canoes, obliterated and unknown. Some "old settlers" may perhaps from memory be able to point out the general course of these trails, over which they explored the country in their "claim hunting" excursions, and on which they were accustomed to traverse the country until the plow and fences of improvements debarred further use of them.

The Sioux were, by the conditions of the treaty, transferred to a reservation on the head-waters of the Minnesota river. Here they were taught and encouraged to adopt a new system of life and become an agricultural people. It was supposed that some progress was made toward civilization, but, as in many similar philanthropic efforts, the ultimate results proved a failure. The Sioux massacre of 1862 originated with the bands of Wabasha's division, which had given the most encouraging prospects of their becoming "good Indians." The first outrages were perpetrated by some of Shakapee's band. A war party was at once organized with the bands of Gray Iron, Little Crow and detachments from other divisions. The band of Wabasha and the Red Wing band were compelled to participate in the proceedings, and the whole Dakota nation was soon involved in the affair.

This chapter would perhaps be considered incomplete without mention of one of the chiefs of Wabasha's band who was more generally known to the early settlers of Winona county than any other of the Indians who originally claimed this part of the country. The most of the "old settlers" probably remember "Old To-ma-ha," the old one-eyed Sioux, who kept up his rounds of visitations to the settlements until about the time of his death, which occurred in 1860 at about one hundred years of age. When on his customary visits among the whites he was usually accompanied by a party of his own descendants and family relatives—from ten to twenty in number. His figure was erect and movements active, notwithstanding his advanced age. His dress on these occasions was a much worn military coat and pantaloons of blue cloth trimmed with red, and an old stove-pipe hat with the same color displayed. He always carried with him a large package of papers inclosed in a leather or skin pocket-book, and also a large silver medal, which he wore suspended from his neck in a conspicuous place on his breast. His large red pipe-stone hatchet pipe, with a long handle, was generally in his hands. It was his usual custom to attract attention by his presence and then allow the curious to examine his pipe and medal, when, if there appeared to be a prospect of getting money for the exhibition, he would produce his pocket-book and allow an examination of its contents, for which privilege he expected, and usually received, at least a dime, and perhaps from the more liberal a quarter of a dollar. This Indian was a historical character. His pocket-book contained his commission as a chief of the Sioux nation, given him by Governor Clark, of Missouri territory, in 1814, who at the same time presented him with a captain's uniform and a medal for meritorious services rendered the government as a scout and messenger. His papers contained testimonials and recommendations from prominent government officials and other persons. Mention is made of him in the reports of officials who had jurisdiction in the northwest territories, one by Lieut. Pike, who was sent by the government of the United States in 1805 to explore the northern part of the "Louisiana purchase," then recently acquired, and to make treaties with the Dakotas. In 1812, when the Sioux joined the English in the war with the United States, Tomaha went to St. Louis and gave his services to fight against the British forces. He had the confidence of the military officers, and in all of the frontier difficulties on the upper Mississippi, where fighting was done, he was employed as



scout and messenger. When his services were no longer required by government he returned to his Dakota home.

When the Sioux left this vicinity and went to their reservation on the Minnesota river, Tomaha remained to die in the locality where he was born and where he spent his youth. He sometimes visited his friends on the reservation, but never made it his home.

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## CHAPTER XVI.

### THE FUR TRADERS.

THE first white men to establish themselves among these Indians were the fur traders and voyageurs—the early pioneers of commerce. Of the hardy adventurers who in generations past engaged in commercial pursuits in this vicinity nothing is now known.

The earliest of these traffickers, who had a fixed place of business in this county, of which there is even a traditional record, was Francois La Bathe. His business location was in the northern part of the county, on the Mississippi. The date of his establishment of a trading station in this vicinity is not now definitely known. He had trading posts in other localities along the river at the same time—one at Bad Axe, below La Crosse. His more permanent stations were usually under the charge of partners and assistants or clerks. Mr. O. M. Lord informed the writer that Hon. N. W. Kittson, of St. Paul, was in the employ of La Bathe & Co. for a year or two, in 1840, or about that time, and had charge of a trading station above the Rolling Stone. The location of the station was described by Mr. Kittson as being above Minnesota City, at the foot of the bluff, where the slough leaves the mainland (Haddock's slough). The land in this vicinity is now owned by D. L. Burley, who has occupied it about thirty years. Mr. Burley says he has never seen any indications that would lead him to think the locality had ever been occupied for any purpose prior to his taking possession of it. Others say La Bathe's trading post was above that place. Near where the river leaves the mainland, about four miles below the mouth of the White Water, there is a bluff and a location that resemble the description given to Mr. Lord. At that place the early

settlers of 1852 found the ruins of a large cabin. The writer saw it frequently in 1854. There was a huge stone fireplace and chimney then standing entire, in a tolerable state of preservation, but the logs were a mass of ruins, and bushes were growing up among the logs where the house once stood.

It is said that La Bathe spent the most of his life with the Dakotah Indians; that though of French descent he was in some way related to them either by birth or marriage, or perhaps both. His influence with the Indians was an advantage to him in his commercial transactions. He was intimately connected in business affairs with prominent traders. His history is unknown in this vicinity. La Bathe went with the Sioux to their reservation on the head-waters of the Minnesota river, where he was killed by the savages with whom he had spent his life. He was among the first victims at the outbreak of the Sioux massacre in 1862.

Although there were quite a number of traders who lived on the Wisconsin side of the river, at La Crosse and at what is now Trempealeau and Fountain City, who traded with the Sioux on the west side of the river, there are but two or three others of this class to mention who were established in business and had a residence in Winona county. First among these were Willard B. Bunnell and Nathan Brown, both of whom came into the Territory of Minnesota after it was organized.

"Bill" Bunnell had been for five or six years prior to his coming here living on the east side of the Mississippi, at La Crosse and at what is now Trempealeau village, but the most of the time in what was called the Trempealeau country, hunting, trapping and trading with the Indians. His Indian trade was principally with the Winnebagoes who were living in that vicinity and in the Black River country. He had, before coming to the Mississippi river, been a trader in the vicinity of Green Bay, with the Menomines and Chippewas. From his fluency in speaking the language of the Chippewas the Sioux for some time after his arrival in this vicinity were jealous and suspicious of him as a friend of their hereditary enemies. He was unable to secure their confidence until he had learned their language and proved himself to be a "professional" hunter and their friend. He joined them in their hunting excursions, and for the time adopted their style of "undress,"—a breech-clout, buckskin leggings and moccasins. In this rig, with his rifle or fowling-piece and blanket, he spent weeks with them on Root river and its tribu-

taries. He was the first white resident of this locality to explore the country back of the bluffs.

Willard Bradly Bunnell located as a licensed trader with the Sioux of Wabasha's band, August 20, 1849. His house was on the bank of the river, in what is now the village of Homer. It was built of hewed logs, and had a shingled roof—the first shingled roof ever put on any structure in this part of Minnesota. This was the first permanent improvement made in the settlement of the county. To this place Bunnell brought his family. It was the home of an estimable wife and their three children. It was here that the first white child was born. Frances Matilda Bunnell was born February 20, 1850. She was the first white native resident of this part of the territory.

Mrs. Bunnell was the first white woman that came into this part of the Territory of Minnesota to live—the first to make her home within the boundaries of Winona county. She was a model representative of a frontier woman. Although remarkably domestic in her habits, and observant of matters connected with her household duties, which make home desirable, she was able to paddle her own canoe, and was a sure shot with either the rifle or fowling-piece. While in general appearance and manners ladylike and modestly feminine, she had remarkable courage and self-possession, and was decisive to act in cases of emergency, when danger threatened herself or family—qualifications that were respected by her dusky neighbors, the friends of the trader. Possessing good mental abilities, her experience in frontier life and intuitive knowledge of Indian character gave her an influence over the wild customers who visited their trading-post, that was as much a matter of surprise to herself as to others. The Indians respected and feared her although only a "woman."

Mrs. Bunnell was of French descent. Besides speaking French, she was able to converse fluently with the Chippewas, Winnebagoes and Sioux, and had some knowledge of other dialects. She was brought up in the Catholic faith, but in the latter part of her life she professed the Protestant religion, and became a member of the Methodist church. Mrs. Bunnell died in April, 1867, at about the age of forty-five. Some of her children are yet residents of this state.

The house, a story and a-half building, built by "Will" Bunnell in 1849, is still standing in the upper part of the village of Homer, at what was once called Bunnell's Landing. The building

and grounds are now the property of Dr. L. H. Bunnell, a younger brother of the trader. The house has been moved a little back from where it was originally built, and, to keep pace with the times, this relic of the first settlers' early home has been somewhat modernized by a covering of clapboards and painted. It is still a comfortable dwelling, and is occupied by Dr. Bunnell as his residence and permanent home.

Willard B. Bunnell took an active interest in the early settlement of this county, and was connected with many of the incidents of pioneer life which will be noticed in the progress of events. He died in August, 1861, at about the age of forty-seven. His death was caused by consumption.

Nathan Brown came into the territory as a trader September 29, 1849. His location was on the river below Bunnell's, in what is now the southern part of the county. Mr. Brown was then a young man without a family. His cabin in which he made his home was a one-story log building, 12×16. His storehouse, 12×16, was a story and a-half, of hewed logs. These buildings were covered with shingled roofs and substantially made.

Although Mr. Brown was a trader with the Indians, he did not hold his position through a license from government. He made a sort of miniature treaty with Wabasha and his braves, and purchased from them the privilege of occupying as much of the locality as he chose to carry on his business. For this permit he paid them \$50—making payment in flour and pork from his store. Mr. Brown states that "during the early days of his residence there, while engaged in trade with the Winnebagoes and Sioux, he never locked his cabin door, not even when absent from home, and never lost anything by theft, through either Indians or white people."

Mr. Brown and Mr. Bunnell, as the last of the Indian traders, appear to constitute a connecting link between the past and present condition of this part of the country. Both settled here while the land was held by the Sioux. Both were residents of Winona county after its organization.

Following in the order of pioneer life, the missionaries have been among the first to venture into countries inhabited by the savages, and the first to attempt to improve their condition. Their zealous efforts entitle them to be called the pioneers of civilization. Foremost among these have been the missionaries connected with the Catholic church.



In the earliest explorations of this part of the country, the traders were accompanied by the priests. The early French traders and voyageurs were of that religious belief, and their descendants, for all of them intermarried with the Indians, were taught the same faith. These missionaries were the first to visit the Dakotas—the first to visit the west side of the Mississippi river.

From the days of the Rev. Louis Hennepin to more modern times they held a strong influence over the traders and voyageurs, and their descendants, and perhaps, to a limited extent, succeeded in influencing the savage natives by their teachings.

The first Catholic missionaries of more modern times, of whom there is even traditionary knowledge in this section of country, were at the half-breed village where now stands the city of Wabasha. There the first church in southern Minnesota was built in 1845. With the exception of the very Rev. A. Ravoux, the names of these missionaries are unknown.

The first attempt to establish a Protestant missionary station in this vicinity, of which there is any record, was in 1836. Rev. Daniel Gavan, a Frenchman, sent out as a missionary by the Evangelical Society of Lausanne, Switzerland, established a mission for the benefit of the Sioux of Wabasha's band. At that time the Sioux held possession of the east side of the river. Mr. Gavan located on the Wisconsin side, and built his cabin near Trempealeau mountain. He remained here until the fall of 1838, when he visited the missions on the Minnesota river, at Lac qui Parle, for the purpose of learning the Sioux language from the missionaries, who were then translating the Scriptures into that tongue. While thus engaged he became acquainted with and afterward married Miss Lucy C. Stevens, who had been a teacher in a mission school at Lake Harriet, near Fort Snelling. Miss Stevens was a niece of Rev. J. D. Stevens, a missionary. Mr. Gavan, after his marriage, removed to Red Wing, where he remained until 1845.

In 1838 the Rev. Jedediah D. Stevens came into this vicinity in the double capacity of missionary or teacher, and "Indian Farmer." Mr. Stevens was one of the earliest Protestant missionaries to visit the Dakotas on this side of the river. In the spring of 1835 he with his family came to Ft. Snelling, and shortly afterward removed from there to Lake Harriet, as missionary to "Cloud Man's" band of Sioux, where he remained until the fall of 1838, when he was

appointed "Indian Farmer" to the Sioux of Wabasha's band, at Wabasha prairie. Maj. Talliaferro, the Indian agent for the Sioux, aided some of the early missionaries by such appointments, with the design to benefit the savages by thus providing them with means of civilization.

Late in the fall of 1838 Mr. Stevens moved his family to his appointed field of labor, but was not favorably received by the Indians. He, however, located himself on the Wisconsin side of the river on the island, about opposite where Laird, Norton & Co's saw-mills now stand, where he built a comfortable log cabin for his family, and a stable for the team of horses he brought with him. He there passed the winter with his wife and children and a young girl, an assistant and companion of Mrs. Stevens. Mr. G. W. Clark says the ruins of this cabin were to be seen when he came here in 1851. Expecting to get his winter supply of provisions from down the river before the close of navigation, he brought only a small supply with him, and was seriously disappointed to learn that no supplies could be procured from that source. He was compelled to go to Prairie Du Chine for the provisions he had ordered. This trip, over one hundred miles distant, he made with his team on the ice, leaving his family alone. It was during this winter that Mr. Gavin, who had been living near Trempealeau, was visiting the missions on the Minnesota river.

Neither Mr. Stevens nor his family were in any way molested or disturbed by the Sioux during the winter, but he failed to secure the confidence or friendship of Wabasha or his people, although he was able to converse with them in their own tongue. They were dissatisfied with his appointment as "Indian Farmer," and from the time of his arrival had refused to recognize him as a government agent, or in his capacity as a teacher. In the spring, when he began to make preparations to build on the prairie, their dissatisfaction began to assume a threatening form of opposition. His perseverance excited their hostilities to the extent that he was ordered to keep on the east side of the river, where he was then living, and not attempt to locate on their lands. Deeming it unsafe to remain with his family, against the opposition exhibited, Mr. Stevens resigned his position and left the locality. He went down the river and found more civilized society.

The young girl (now Mrs. Griggs) who lived with Mrs. Stevens on the island during that winter, resides near Minneapolis.

This appointment of Mr. Stevens to the position of Indian farmer at Wabasha Prairie was the first special appointment made for the Sioux in this locality. It was made in accordance with the terms of the treaty in 1837, by which they sold their lands on the east side of the Mississippi, with all of their island in the river. This treaty was not ratified by government until the following year, 1838, only a short time before Mr. Stevens was assigned to the locality.

Although the Sioux continued to occupy the islands and lands on the east side of the river in common with others, during their stay in this vicinity, they never assumed jurisdiction over them.

The Sioux were jealous of the rapid advances of the white people, and firmly opposed any measures which gave them privileges on their lands. The trader was to them a necessity. The Catholic missionaries had for generations been mysteriously associated with the presence of the trader and tolerated. But the missionary Indian farmer they were not prepared to receive—they were indifferent as to what Mr. Stevens knew about farming or schools. It was supposed by some that the Indians were influenced in this matter by the traders and half-breeds, with a design to drive Mr. Stevens off and make a vacancy in the position. This may have been the case; but it was evident that Wabasha did not favor measures that tended to civilization. Afterward, when the treaty was made for the sale of their lands, in 1851, he opposed the sale until the treaty was ready for signature, and then acquiesced only because he feared the treaty would be made without his touch of the pen. He was opposed to the terms of the treaty, and in a speech in opposition to it, he said to the commissioners in council: "You have requested us to sign this paper, and you have told these people standing around that it is for their benefit; but I am of a different opinion. In the treaty I have heard read you have mentioned farmers and schools, physicians, traders and half-breeds. To all these I am opposed. You see these chiefs sitting around. They and others who are dead went to Washington and made a treaty (in 1837), in which the same things were said; but we have not been benefited by them, and I want them struck out of this one. We want nothing but cash turned over to us for our lands."

At about the time that Mr. Stevens was appointed Indian farmer, a government blacksmith was also assigned to this band. His name, the place where located, or the length of time he was here,

is somewhat uncertain. It is said by some that he was located near La Bathe's trading station. Of this nothing reliable is learned. About the same time a blacksmith was assigned to the half-breeds. Oliver Cratt, from Fort Snelling, was appointed to that position, and he located himself at the half-breed settlement, now Wabasha. Whether he also supplied Wabasha's band is not known.

Dr. Bunnell, of this county, says that he learned from some old Indians, Sioux and Winnebagoes, and from descendants of half-breed natives of this vicinity, that the first blacksmith appointed to Wabasha's band was a half-breed Sioux. That he located himself on the very site where W. B. Bunnell afterward settled, and which is now the property of Dr. Bunnell. He says that in cultivating his garden, in that locality, he has found cinders and scraps of iron that would confirm the statement. The tradition of the Indians is that the half-breed blacksmith did not stay but a short time on the west side of the river. To avoid threatened danger to himself he moved his blacksmith-shop onto an island opposite Homer. In this way he held for awhile his position of an employé under government.

The doctor also states that after W. B. Bunnell was located at his trading station, he found on the island an old anvil and evidence that a blacksmith had occupied the locality. The island was given the name of "Blacksmith Island" by the trader, and it is yet known by that name.

The Sioux of the "lower bands" along the river were all opposed to the payment of teachers or for the establishment of schools, etc., from their annuities. No schools were ever established with Wabasha's band. It was not until several years after the treaty of 1837 that the consent of any of this division was obtained. Little Crow, of the Kaposia band, was the first to ask for a school, in 1846. The mission schools were previous to this, and until after the treaty of 1851, supported at the expense of missionary societies.

In 1842 James Reed was appointed Indian farmer to Wabasha's band, and held this position under government for three years afterward. He built a log storehouse on Wabasha prairie, which he used as his headquarters when engaged in his official duties. This building stood about where S. C. White's store now stands, on the corner of Second and Center streets, in the city of Winona.

The lands cultivated by the Sioux, under the management and instruction of Mr. Reed, were in the mouth of what is now called



Gilmore valley, the bottom lands in front of the residence of C. C. Beck. Prior to this the same locality had been used by generations of Sioux squaws for cultivation after their primitive manner. This was the favorite planting-grounds of Wabasha's village, although other localities were also used for purposes of cultivation. The mouth of Burns valley was another favorite locality and the special home of the chief Wabasha and his family relatives. The main village of this band was on the slough at the upper end of the prairie, near where the railroad machine-shops are now located.

James Reed was a native of Kentucky. When a young man he enlisted as a soldier and was stationed at Fort Crawford, Prairie du Chine. After his discharge he adopted the life of a hunter and trapper, and spent the greater part of his life among the Indians along the upper Mississippi. As was common among men of his class, he took a wife or two among the people with whom he was living. His last wife, to whom he was married in 1840, or about that time, in Prairie du Chine, was a half-breed Sioux, a cousin of the chief Wabasha, and said to be a sister of Francois la Bathe, the trader of whom mention has been made.

The section of country fixed upon by James Reed as his favorite locality was the Trempealeau country, where he was successful in raising stock on the free ranges of government lands. He made it his home at what is now the village of Trempealeau. It was here he was living when he was appointed Indian farmer for the benefit of the Sioux on Wabasha prairie. He did not change his residence while holding this official position.

Mr. Reed lived in the Trempealeau country until his death, which occurred but a few years ago at what is called the "Little Tamerack," in the Trempealeau valley.

How much the Indians were benefited by the instructions of an inexperienced agriculturist it is now difficult to determine. The first settlers on Wabasha prairie found some parts of broken plows among the ruins of the old storehouse used by Mr. Reed. An old breaking plow was found and taken possession of by some of the settlers at Minnesota city. This was claimed and carried away by some of the squaws in 1852.

It is questionable whether the people of this band were benefited by agents of government or missionaries while they remained in this section of country. There is no evidence to show a single

instance where a missionary was ever permitted by Wabasha to locate within what are now the boundaries of this county.

The Catholic missionaries were the religious instructors of the half-breeds. To what extent they had influence with this band is now unknown. From several graves disclosed by the caving of the bank of the river, in the lower part of the city of Winona, a number of large silver crosses and other Catholic emblems were taken by some boys fishing in the vicinity. One of these crosses was purchased by W. H. St. John, a jeweler in Winona, who exhibits it in his store as a relic of the past. The graves were evidently those of females.

In the summer of 1848, the Winnebago Indians were removed from the reservation in the northeastern part of Iowa, which they had occupied for a limited time, to a reservation established for them by government on Long Prairie, on the east side of the Mississippi, about forty miles back from the river, and about one hundred and forty miles above St. Paul.

They were opposed to the arrangements, and objected to their removal to the locality selected for their future home. Military aid was required to induce them to move. After considerable delay a part of them were persuaded to start up the Mississippi in their canoes, under charge of H. M. Rice, accompanied by a company of volunteers from Crawford county, Wis., in boats. The other portion was induced to start by land, with their ponies, under the care of Indian agent Fletcher, with a company of dragoons from Fort Atkinson, and a train of baggage wagons. By agreement these two parties were to meet at Wabasha Prairie.

The party by water reached the prairie and landed near where Mrs. Keyes now lives, where they camped. The land party came into this part of the country by following up what is now called Money Creek valley, and arrived at the prairie by following the Indian trail on the divide between the Burns and Gilmore valleys. This trail led down a steep ravine back of where George W. Clark now lives. It was here necessary to let the baggage wagons down with ropes attached to the trees on the east side of the ravine. This trail over the ridge was afterward known to the early settlers as the "Government Trail."

When the Winnebagos reached Wabasha Prairie they revolted, and decidedly refused to go farther. With the exception of one small band, who remained on the bank of the river, they all went

round the lake to the mouth of Burns valley, where they camped with Wabasha's band, which had collected there, and with whom they were on friendly terms.

Finding it necessary to have more aid, reinforcements were sent for. While the government officials were waiting for help from Fort Snelling, the Winnebagos negotiated with Wabasha for the purchase of the prairie, and expressed a determination to remain here. Wabasha and his braves joined in with them—took an active interest in their proceedings, and encouraged them in their revolt against the authority of Indian agent J. E. Fletcher and his assistants.

A steamboat brought down from the fort a company of soldiers and two pieces of artillery, which were landed at the camp on the lower part of the prairie.

A council with the Indians was agreed upon, the day appointed, and the place selected. The location was above the camp and back from the river. To guard against a surprise the officers in charge made their strongest preparation for defense, in case an attack should be made. The teamsters and every available man of the party was armed and detailed for active duty. On the day fixed all of the warriors of the combined tribes of Winnebagos and Sioux, many of them mounted on their ponies, marched around the head of the lake from Burns valley and moved down the prairie. When about half a mile from the council grounds, where the Indian agent awaited them surrounded by his forces, a detachment rode forward as if to reconnoiter. The whole body of Indians then moved down as if at a charge, and began the wildest display of their capacity to represent demons, on foot and on horseback. Their manœuvres might indicate a peaceful display or represent a threatened assault. It was supposed at the time that an attack was designed by the wild devils.

One of the land escort, McKinney, pointed out the locations and described the incidents to the writer, and said that he certainly expected to lose his scalp that day. As he watched their wild evolutions, circling on every side, charging with fierce yells and firing of guns, his scalp seemed to fairly start from his head. His fear of attack was, however, second to his astonishment and admiration of the extraordinary and unexpected display.

The council was held without any attending difficulty, but the agents failed to secure the consent of the Indians to move on up the

river. After a delay here of about a month the Winnebagoes consented to go to Long Prairie. Many of them, however, went back to Iowa, or crossed the river to their old homes in Wisconsin.

Wabasha was arrested and taken up to Fort Snelling for the part he had taken in the affair. The sale of Wabasha Prairie to the Winnebagoes was never consummated, or agreed to by the Sioux. The negotiations for it were simply "talks" to delay any movements. The Winnebagoes were then desirous of going to the Missouri river country, instead of up the Mississippi.

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## CHAPTER XVII.

### EARLY LAND TITLES.

FOLLOWING the trader, the missionary and the government employé, the town-site hunters, the pioneer land speculators, crowded the advance of civilization. In this county the town-site speculators were in the van of settlers seeking permanent homes. In the selection of town sites the traders had some advantage in securing the first choice of locations; but their selections did not always prove to be the most successful speculations. The professional town-site operators were generally more than their equals in management after selections were made and the tide of immigration began its movement.

It may perhaps be truly said that the first town-site claimants—the first to secure locations for town sites in what is now Winona county—were the traders W. B. Bunnell and Nathan Brown. Bunnell's selection for his trading station was made more directly with a view of convenience for the special business in which he was engaged, but with the design of making it his future home. The Territory of Minnesota had just been organized, and he was aware that the time was not far distant when the Sioux would be compelled to move back and give way to the advance of the white race and civilization.

His selection was made in anticipation that when this part of the country should become settled it would be an important business point. Bunnell was familiar with the back country and with the



river, and took possession of his chosen locality with the impression and an honest belief that he was securing the best steamboat landing and town site on the west side of the river, between Lake Pepin and the Iowa line, and there waited the progress of events.

Nathan Brown's trading-post was a town site. B. W. Brisbois, a trader residing at Prairie du Chine, and F. S. Richards, a trader at the foot of Lake Pepin, made choice of this locality with the same ideas of the future development of the country that had influenced Bunnell. They selected Mr. Brown as a proper person, one in whom they had confidence and considered trusty, to join with them in this speculation, and hold the location by establishing a trading station. The location was not the choice of Mr. Brown. At the time this proposition was made to him he was at St. Anthony, where he had about decided to locate himself. He consented to become a partner, but not with the design of making it his future home. By agreement they were to take his share off from his hands whenever he should choose to leave, and to pay him for holding the situation. This they failed to do when required, and Nathan Brown became a permanent resident of that locality. Brisbois and Richards furnished Brown with goods for the Indian trade, and he here carried on quite a flourishing business, principally with the Winnebagoes, who lived across the river in the Trempealeau country. His trade with the Sioux was more limited. He also engaged in furnishing wood for steamboats, employing choppers during the winter for that purpose, paying them principally from his store.

Another town site was selected by Chute and Ewing about three fourths of a mile below Brown's, in which Capt. D. S. Harris had an interest for awhile. This was also a trading station. A Canadian Frenchman held the locality for about a year, when he left, and Jerry Tibbits took his place. Mr. Tibbits is still a resident of that vicinity, living in the town of New Hartford. This town site was, after two or three years, attached to the one held by Mr. Brown and its name of Catlin dropped.

This trading station Nathan Brown held for the company from 1849 to 1855, when it was duly entered at the United States land office as a town site under the name of Dakota.

As a speculation it did not prove to be a successful undertaking or a profitable investment for its proprietors. A few settlers made it their home for awhile, but were compelled to leave and earn a living elsewhere. Mr. Brown says he could not afford to support

the settlers who located there, and bought out all who had an interest in the town and converted the tillable land into a farm.

It failed as a steamboat landing, but the railroad station, Dakota, on the river road, marks the location of the *ancient* town site and trading station of Brisbois, Richards and Brown, Indian traders and town-lot speculators.

Nathan Brown yet lives on the same claim, and near the site of the cabins he built there in 1849. He has a large farm in that vicinity, and is now the oldest resident in the county or in southern Minnesota, having occupied the same locality about thirty-four years.

Mr. Brown and Mr. Bunnell came here about the same time. In conversation relative to early days Mr. Brown said: "The first time I ever saw Bunnell was in the spring of 1849. I was going down the river, footing it on the ice, on my way from St. Anthony to Prairie du Chine. Finding the traveling unsafe, I left the river at Holmes', now Fountain City, and took the trail along the bluffs. I got wet crossing the Trempealeau river, and as it was then dark I camped. In the morning, after going a short distance, I came to a cabin which I found occupied by Bunnell's family. He had been living there during the winter."

Aside from the trading stations already mentioned, there were no other settlements made or commenced in this vicinity until after the treaty with the Sioux in 1851, when the first settlement was made on Wabasha prairie.

This prairie had but little to recommend it to the attention of either the town-site hunter or settlers seeking choice locations for farms and homes in the new country which the Sioux were soon to relinquish to the whites. It was a sandy plain, apparently level as viewed from the river, and scantily covered with a stunted growth of wild grass. A few trees and bushes fringed the immediate bank of the river, while but a single tree stood on any other part of the prairie on which the city of Winona now stands. A striking contrast with its present appearance—covered as it now is with such vast numbers of lofty and beautiful shade-trees, giving it a resemblance to a forest, with varied thickets of undergrowth through which broad avenues and partial clearings had been made. The one lone tree was in the lower part of the city. It stood in the valley, between Third and Fourth streets, in front of where the Washington school building now stands.

In the time of high water, when the Mississippi seemed to disregard boundaries, this prairie was but an island, apparently so low and level that it was but little above the water which lapped onto its banks. A rushing torrent then flowed through the slough above, where now the embankments of the railroads form a dam. In the rear a broad current of water, three fourths of a mile wide, separated it from the mainland.

Bunnell, the trader, living three or four miles below, had learned through the traditions of the Indians from the Sioux, with whom he was intimate and had familiar acquaintance, that the whole of Wabasha prairie had been entirely submerged during some of the most extreme floods of the river.

No story was more current during the earlier days of the settlement of this locality, or told with more apparent candor and truthfulness, than that about the general overflow of high-water on this prairie. From the traditionary evidence first cited, it soon reached the stage where positive proof could be readily made. Many of the old experienced river men claimed, and positively asserted, that they had passed over the highest part of the prairie on rafts and with boats. Not to be behind in experience, steamboat men stated that they, too, had found there sufficient depth of water for any boat.

The story that steamboats had passed over may possibly have started from the fact that during the high water of 1849 a small steamboat did get aground on the lower part of the prairie. The pilot of the Lynx mistook the channel one dark, stormy night, and ran his craft out on the low land, just below where the house of Mrs. Keyes now stands. To return the boat to the river it was necessary to take everything out of her, even her boilers and the brickwork of the arches in which they were set.

It was said that during the high water of 1852 it was not uncommon to hear the raftsmen hail the residents of the prairie with, "You'd better get out o' there or you'll get drowned out. I've seen that prairie all under water." A raftsmen was considered a green one if in his experience he had never seen Wabasha prairie covered with water.

Strangers—passengers on the steamboats—were commonly entertained as they approached the prairie with the stereotyped remark, "It looks like a nice place to build a town, but it overflows." The persistent repetition of such remarks was as annoying to the settlers as it was irritating to the proprietors of the embryo city plotted there.

The proprietor of a rival town site was holding forth on this subject to a crowd of passengers, as the steamboat approached the prairie from below, saying, "It is true it does look like a nice place to build a town, but, gentlemen, I have passed over the highest land on Wabasha prairie in a boat." He was here interrupted by a passenger, a resident of the prairie, the dignified and gentlemanly appearing Rev. H. S. Hamilton, who removed his hat as he stepped forward and gravely said: "Excuse me, sir, but can it be possible that your name is Noah? There is no record that any one has passed over that prairie since the days of that ancient navigator of the deep." The town-site blower was forced to retreat from the laughter of the amused crowd of passengers.

To Capt. Orin Smith belongs the credit of selecting Wabasha prairie as a location for a town site. He was the founder of the city of Winona. At that time he was a citizen of Galena, Illinois, and the captain of the steamboat *Nominee*, running between Galena and St. Paul. He had seen western towns spring up like magic, enriching the lucky proprietors. Land speculations and town-site operations were the most common topics of conversation among his passengers. From a desire to engage in some profitable speculation, should opportunity offer, he watched for a chance to secure a town site on the river. His observations convinced him that eventually, when the Indian title should become extinct on the west side of the river in the Territory of Minnesota, an important point must spring up, and he early comprehended that Wabasha prairie possessed the most favorable and decided advantages for the rapid growth of a large commercial town when the country should become settled.

The treaty with the Sioux in 1851 presented an opportunity which Capt. Smith at once took advantage of, although the treaty had not been ratified and the Indians were still occupying the country. He was familiar with the river, and was aware that there were but two locations suitable for steamboat landings on Wabasha prairie. One, the present levee—the other about a mile below. Capt. Smith was aware, from his own personal knowledge (he had navigated the upper Mississippi many years), that Wabasha prairie was not subject to an entire overflow, neither had it been submerged within the traditional recollections of the "oldest inhabitants" among the whites; yet he was to a certain extent influenced by the Indian traditions, by Bunnell's opinion and by the opinions of some of the old river men of his acquaintance in his first choice of location.



He selected the lower landing for his town site because the banks were higher, the shore bolder, with a good depth of water at all seasons of navigation. He was also aware that the upper landing was subject to overflow, although available and satisfactory at other times. He therefore decided to secure and control both landings.

In accordance with this plan he made his arrangements to take possession, and selected as his agent in this transaction Erwin H. Johnson, the carpenter on his steamboat, the old Nominee. He made a written agreement with Johnson to hold the two claims he had selected, for which Johnson was to have an undivided half of both claims. Capt. Smith also agreed to pay Johnson twenty-five dollars per month and furnish all necessary subsistence. Johnson was to engage in banking steamboat wood, which Captain Smith proposed to have cut on the islands opposite during the winter.

Capt. Smith landed Erwin H. Johnson from the Nominee at the lower landing on Wabasha prairie at about ten o'clock at night, on the 15th of October, 1851. He also left with him two men, employed as wood-choppers. One of these men was Caleb Nash. The name of the other is unknown; he left on the return of the Nominee down the river.

Johnson was furnished by Capt. Smith with a small quantity of lumber for a shanty, a yoke of oxen and abundant supplies of provisions and blankets. These, with Johnson's tool-chest, a few necessary tools, a bucket or two, an iron pot, a bake-kettle, an iron spider and a few dishes, comprised the entire outfit.

They camped for that night on the beach where they landed, and slept under a few boards which they laid against the bank above. The next day they built a small cabin on the same locality where they had passed the night. This structure was about 10×12, with a shed roof sloping toward the bank. The back end of this cabin was the bank against which it was built. A fireplace was formed in one corner, a hole above in the lower part of the roof afforded exit for the smoke. The material used for this fireplace was the brick thrown from the Lynx when aground about half a mile below in 1849.

This shanty, as it was called, was the first "claim shanty" put up on Wabasha prairie. It stood on the beach, below the high bank of the river, nearly in front of where the planing-mill of the Winona Lumber Company now stands. Johnson built a stable for the oxen

on the bank ten or fifteen rods back from the river. This was made of poles and covered with coarse grass from the bottoms. In the absence of any other means of conveyance a crotch of a tree was used as a sled to transport such things as the oxen were required to haul. Johnson afterward built a rough sled for his use in banking wood on the island during the winter.

Not long after Johnson's arrival on Wabasha prairie another town-site speculator made his appearance in this locality. On the 12th of November, 1851, Silas Stevens, a lumber dealer in La Crosse, landed from the *Excelsior* at the upper landing, about where the L. C. Porter flouring-mill now stands. With him came Geo. W. Clark, a young man in his employ, and Edwin Hamilton, a young man from Ohio, looking for a chance to speculate in claims, who had been induced to come up from La Crosse, where he had been stopping for a short time.

Mr. Stevens brought with him lumber for a shanty, a cooking stove, and a liberal supply of provisions, blankets, etc. It was about eleven o'clock at night when this party left the steamer *Excelsior*. Mr. Stevens was aware that Capt. Smith had made a claim here and placed a man on it to hold possession, and the party at once made search for his cabin. The night was intensely dark, and they were compelled to hunt for some time before they found Johnson. His locality was unknown to either of them. Mr. Stevens had a few days before been up the river as far as Bunnell's landing, and from the bluff above had seen some men and a yoke of oxen on the lower end of the prairie, but no cabin was in sight.

Fortunately, by following down the bank of the river, they discovered the shanty and were furnished by Johnson with the best accommodation the cabin afforded,—a bed of hay on the floor where all slept together, covered with blankets. Johnson had not then completed his shanty. He afterward improved the interior by putting up a shelf or two to hold his supplies and dishes, and two double berths, one over the other in one corner. These were made of poles, his supply of lumber was insufficient. For comfort these berths were filled with dry prairie-grass, covered with blankets.

This party took breakfast with Johnson before beginning the business of the day. Up to this time the question of boundaries to their claims had not been considered either by Capt. Smith or Johnson. Capt. Smith had simply proposed to claim the two landings, with at least 160 acres of prairie in each claim, and as much more as

they could control. It now became necessary to have their boundaries more accurately defined.

Mr. Stevens had come up for the express purpose of securing one of the landings, not being aware that Capt. Smith proposed to hold them both through Johnson, who he supposed was only an employé, without an individual interest in the matter. Mr. Stevens expected to take possession of and hold the upper landing through an employé of his own, Mr. Clark, who had come for that purpose. He was somewhat surprised to find that Johnson had already laid claim to it, with the approval of Capt. Smith, but no improvements had been made. Not being of an aggressive nature, Mr. Stevens hesitated to take advantage of this and take possession without Johnson's consent, which he could not obtain.

After a general consultation, in which the whole party participated, it was finally agreed that the land along the river should be divided into "claims" of half a mile square, and that Johnson should have the first choice of two of the claims, one for Capt. Smith and the other for himself.

Accordingly, on the morning of November 13, 1851, the first claim-stakes were driven on Wabasha prairie, and the first defined claims made within what are now the boundaries of Winona county. The stake agreed upon as the starting-point was driven on the bank of the river below the present residence of Mrs. Keyes. From this stake a half-mile was measured off with a tape-line up the river, where another stake was driven. This half-mile was chosen by Johnson for Capt. Smith and was called "Claim No. 1." The next half-mile measured off up the river bank was called "Claim No. 2." This was at once chosen and claimed by both Stevens and Nash.

Mr. Stevens expected that claim No. 2 would be awarded to him. He had been influenced by the recommendations and persuasions of Capt. Smith to come up and select a claim to hold possession, and he now supposed that after Smith and Johnson he was entitled to the next choice; but he was again disappointed, and again gave way to Johnson's decision in the matter. Nash, supported by and under the instructions of Johnson, claimed it by seniority as a settler. He had been a resident on the prairie about three weeks, and claimed the land by his rights of first discovery.

The next half-mile, claim No. 3, was assigned to Mr. Stevens. It could hardly be called his choice. Claim No. 4 was awarded to

Johnson as per agreement. The next half-mile, claim No. 5, was selected by Edwin Hamilton, who claimed precedent. He had seen the prairie some weeks before from the deck of a steamboat while on a trip up the river with Mr. Stevens. No farther measurements were made at this time, but the next half-mile was duly awarded to George W. Clark, the junior settler and the last of the party. No one disputed his rights to claim No. 6.

These claims, made as described, were afterward designated by the numbers then given and by the names of the persons to whom they were awarded by this party until after the government survey of the public lands in this part of the territory. The township lines were surveyed in 1853, but the subdivisions were not completed until 1855.

The following copy of a lease is presented as documentary evidence to show that these claims were generally known by the numbers given, and also as a relic of early days in this locality.

“WABASHAW, July 8th, 1852.

“Whereas I have this day moved into the shanty on Claim No. 5, called Hamilton's claim, on Wabashaw prairie, Minnesota territory; therefore I hereby agree with John L. Balcombe, Edwin Hamilton and Mark Howard, the owners of said claim, that in consideration of the use of said shanty, I will, to the utmost of my ability, prevent all other persons from occupying or injuring said claim, and that I will vacate said shanty and surrender the possession thereof, together with the whole claim, to said owners whenever requested to do so by them or either of them.

O. S. HOLBROOK.

“Witness: Walter Brown,

“George G. Barber.”

The original paper, of which this is a copy, is in the hands of Mrs. Calista Balcombe, the widow of Dr. John L. Balcombe, now living in the city of Winona. The shanty spoken of stood about where the present residence of Hon. H. W. Lamberton now stands, on the corner of Fourth and Huff streets. This shanty was never destroyed; the body of it is still preserved. When the Hamilton claim became the property of Henry D. Huff, the shanty was moved from its original site and attached to the cottage in which Mr. Huff lived for several years, and which is now the residence of Mr. Lafayette Stout, No. 52 West Fourth street.

On the same day that these claims were measured off and located, Mr. Stevens, with the assistance of Clark and Hamilton, built a shanty on claim No. 3. This shanty stood a little east of Market street, between First and Second streets. To move his lumber and



supplies to the place selected the services of Johnson's ox-team and crotch-sled were obtained.

Mr. Stevens went back to La Crosse the same evening on a boat which chanced to come down. Mr. Clark remained to hold possession of the claim for him. Clark was to receive eighteen dollars per month and all necessary supplies furnished. He was to occupy his time in cutting steamboat-wood on the island convenient for banking. Hamilton remained and lived with Clark in the Stevens shanty. He also chopped for Mr. Stevens. No one ever accused Mr. Stevens of having made a big speculation on steamboat-wood cut on government land that winter.

The last boat down in 1851 was the Nominee. About November 21 Capt. Smith passed Wabasha prairie without landing.

Mr. G. W. Clark says that on December 4 he with Johnson went down the river in a canoe to La Crosse. The weather was pleasant but cool. This was their first trip from *home*. After having accomplished the objects of their visit, they started back on the fifth and arrived at Wabasha prairie on the sixth. The river closed a day or two after.

While on this trip to La Crosse Johnson hired two men, Allen Gilmore and George Wallace, to come to Wabasha prairie with him and work for Capt. Smith cutting wood. To accommodate these men Johnson *secured* another canoe, in which he took one of the men while Clark with the other managed their own, the one in which they went down. The weather had become very cold, with the wind strong from the west. Soon after they started it increased to a fierce gale. The spray from the waves as they struck against the bows of the canoes soon covered everything about them with ice and chilled them through. Being unable to manage their canoes against such a strong head-wind they landed, and towed them along the shore until they arrived at Nathan Brown's trading-station, which they reached about dark, almost frozen. Mr. Brown was absent, but finding the door of his cabin unfastened the party took possession and soon started a hot fire in the stove with the abundance of dry wood provided. Finding a plentiful supply of provisions they made themselves comfortable for the night, and the next day safely reached the prairie. This was December 6, the date of the arrival of Allen Gilmore and George Wallace at what is now the city of Winona.

Brown's was then the only stopping-place below Bunnell's, and

it was often made a haven of rest to the weary traveler. Mr. Brown usually lived alone and he enjoyed these forced visits to his cabin, more for the company they afforded than for the profit of it. He seldom made any charge for his accommodations.

Bunnell's was a favorite stopping-place. It was the only place on the west side of the river where travelers could be comfortably accommodated with sheets on their beds and clean table-cloths. It was the only place on the west side of this river in the part of the territory where a white woman lived. Mrs. Bunnell was a good cook, and her guests usually appreciated her efforts to make them comfortable.

In connection with his business as a trader, Bunnell employed quite a number of men, cutting steamboat-wood and in cutting oak-timber for rafting. The following were living on the west side of the river during the winter of 1851-2, or afterward made it their residence : Harry Herrick, Leonard Johnson, Hirk Carroll, Henry J. Harrington and a man by the name of Myers, who came after January 1, 1852. They boarded at Bunnell's.

Two young men, Jabez McDermott and Josiah Keene, were in his employ until after the holidays, and "kept back" in a small cabin on the banks of the river a little below Bunnell's.

Peter Gorr, with his wife and three children, and Augustus Pentler and his wife, lived together in a cabin on an island opposite Bunnell's landing. Gorr and Pentler worked for Bunnell until in February.

Soon after the river was frozen over, or as soon as it was safe to travel on the ice, Israel M. Noracong and William G. McSpadden came up from La Crosse. They brought with them two yoke of oxen and a large sleigh-load of lumber and supplies, which they took up Wabasha prairie to the mouth of the Rollingsstone valley. They put up a shanty a little north from where Elsworth's flouring mill now stands, in Minnesota city. These men were engaged during the winter in cutting black-walnut logs. Black-walnut timber then grew plentifully along that stream.

About the same time John Farrell came up from La Crosse, bringing with him ox-teams and supplies and quite a number of men. He established a logging camp on the Wisconsin side of the river. His cabin and stables were at the foot of the bluff, about where the wagon-road across the bottoms strikes the mainland. He had selected his location and cut a quantity of hay early in the fall.

Some of the most valuable oak timber on the islands opposite the city of Winona was cut down during that winter by Farrell's gang of choppers. Many of the logs were never removed from the places where they were cut.

To aid in floating the heavy oak logs when they were rafted in the spring, almost an equal quantity of the finest ash-timber was also slaughtered and taken away.

The total number of white inhabitants living within the boundaries of what is now Winona county at the close of the year 1849 was six—W. B. Bunnell, wife and three children, at Bunnell's landing, and Nathan Brown.

The total white population at the end of 1850 was seven. This increase of one over the preceding year was from natural cause—by the addition of another child to Bunnell's family. During the winter of 1850-1 Bunnell and Brown had a few transient wood-choppers in their employ, who lived on the islands.

The total white population December 31, 1851, was twenty-one, all of whom, if the family of Bunnell is excepted, were engaged in the same occupation, cutting timber on public lands. It was then a common practice for people who chose to do so to appropriate the timber on lands belonging to the United States for individual use and for purposes of speculation. Such operations were not considered dishonorable. The choicest pine, oak, black-walnut, ash and maple timber was cut on public lands, rafted down the Mississippi and sold by men respected for their business enterprise and honorable dealings with their fellow-men as individuals. It will be safe to say that fifty per cent of the timber on the islands in the Mississippi was cut for steamboat wood and other purposes while the title to lands was in the United States.

Among the enjoyments of holidays observed by the bachelor settlers on Wabasha prairie was the Christmas dinner given by Clark and Hamilton December 25, 1851. Hamilton was chief cook, and made an extra effort for special dishes on this occasion.

Mr. Clark says that in addition to the best of their common fare, good wheat-bread, hot corn-bread, ham, good butter, syrup and strong coffee, Hamilton got up a most delicious squirrel pot-pie, and for dessert a splendid pheasant-pie. Neither vegetables nor fruit were on this bill of fare. They had already learned to dispense with such delicacies.

To this feast Johnson, Nash, Gilmore and Wallace were invited.

All without a single apology promptly responded to the alarm for help from the Stevens shanty.

This was the first special assemblage of the settlers on Wabasha prairie for social enjoyment. No rivalries or claim jealousies existed among them at that time. With this little party on the outskirts of civilization genuine friendship in the rough was the prevailing feeling exhibited, uninterrupted by the hilarities which accompanied. As a closing ceremony at this first reunion of the settlers on the prairie, Hamilton gave as the parting toast, "May the six bachelors here assembled be long remembered by each other." This was responded to by a shake all around as they separated.

The success of the Christmas dinner-party induced Johnson to return the "compliments of the season," and extend a general invitation to all to assemble around his *board* on New Year's day. This was marked as another of the really enjoyable days of that winter to the lonely bachelors of the prairie. The crowning dish on this occasion, the one most vivid in the recollection of Mr. Clark, was an unlimited supply of wild honey, which Johnson had secured from a bee-tree on the island.

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## CHAPTER XVIII.

### THE PIONEERS.

QUITE a number of persons came up from La Crosse on the ice about the first of January, 1852, to see the country and select claims on Wabasha prairie. As everybody stopped at Bunnell's, he, too, became infected with the prevailing epidemic of claim-making from his guests. Although he had no confidence in the success of Capt. Smith's undertaking to build up a commercial port on "that sand-bar in the Mississippi," Bunnell had the shrewdness to surmise that there might be a chance for speculation in the attempt, provided he could sell out before it should be again flooded with water. He at once concluded to take a chance in the venture, and decided that he, too, would have a claim on Wabasha prairie.

At that time Capt. Smith's claim on the lower landing, claim No. 1, was considered the most valuable and the most desirable as a



town site. No. 4 was estimated as the next in value. Nos. 2, 3, 5 and 6 were valued in the order named.

Having determined on making a claim Bunnell went up to the prairie and looked the ground over. He found that the most desirable locations had already been taken. Notwithstanding this he fixed upon one of the unoccupied claims, and selected claim No. 4 for his purpose. This claim he considered really the most valuable.

To get possession Bunnell stated to Johnson that he had been looking for a claim, and had found one that suited him just above the Stevens claim that was not occupied, and he intended to take possession of it. Johnson replied by telling him that he could not have it; that he had already made a claim there and should hold it. Bunnell inquired how many claims he expected to hold; that he was already holding two at the lower end of the prairie. This Johnson denied, and explained to him that the one he was living on was Capt. Smith's and that the other belonged to Nash.

Bunnell then tried to convince Johnson that it would be to the advantage of all who had claims there to give him an interest on the prairie, for the Sioux were then talking of driving the whites away until the treaty was ratified; that with his influence over them he would be able to prevent trouble. Johnson replied that he would not give up that claim to any man, that he was not afraid of trouble with the Indians, that he should hold both claims as long as he staid there. Finding that Johnson could not be influenced by argument, he left with the threat that he would have it, even if he had to help the Indians drive them all off from the prairie.

Not long afterward Bunnell drove up to the prairie again and brought with him on his train two fine-looking young Sioux braves in their holiday attire. He saw Johnson and told him the Sioux were getting to be more dissatisfied with the settlers for coming on their lands without their permission; that there would soon be a disturbance unless something was done to keep them quiet; that he should not try to control them unless he could have that claim; if the settlers got into trouble they would have to go to some one else for help.

Although no serious difficulty was anticipated, the alarm was given as soon as Bunnell came on the prairie with the Sioux and the "boys" who were on the island chopping came *home* in a hurry. After explaining matters to the others, Bunnell told Johnson he had come up on purpose to have a talk with him about that claim, and

asked him what he was going to do about it. "Nothing," was Johnson's reply, and remarked that he did not believe such good-natured looking fellows as Bunnell had on his sleigh would do any harm if they were well treated.

Bunnell had taken a dram or two and was excitable. He lost his temper, talked loud and made a great many violent gestures. The Sioux sat quietly in their places on the train and indulged themselves with their pipes and some of Bunnell's tobacco. They were impassive and apparently indifferent spectators of the proceedings.

Johnson, believing that this was a ruse of Bunnell's to try and frighten them, told him that he "did not scare easy and could not be bluffed with a little noise." Bunnell was annoyed that his dramatic display was a failure, and as he got on his sleigh answered: "You will have to take care of yourself if the Indians get after you; I shall not interfere again." Johnson laughed and gave some derisive reply, telling him "not to bother himself about the affairs of others until he was asked."

The next trip Bunnell made to Wabasha prairie he brought with him two men, Harrington and Myers, and built a small log shanty or pen on Johnson's claim at the upper landing. The logs used in the construction of this claim shanty were once a part of Indian farmer Reed's old store cabin, the ruins of which furnished material sufficient for the body of the crib. It was covered with broad strips of elm bark brought from the Indian tepees in the mouth of Burns' valley.

In this little pen, not more than six feet square and not high enough for a man to stand up in, Bunnell left Myers to hold the fort and guard the claim, which he had now taken possession of in a formal manner. Bunnell furnished Myers with supplies and brought up some lumber and put up the framework of a board shanty, but did not complete it for want of material to cover it. Myers remained in quiet possession of the claim for about a week, when, considering everything safe, as he had not been disturbed or observed any hostile movements, the settlers on the prairie being absent on the island, he ventured down to Bunnell's for a little recreation and relief from his lonely and uncomfortable confinement.

Although no demonstrations had been made, Johnson had watched these proceedings and closely observed all of the movements

of Myers. It was a gratification to see the man with his gun leave the prairie. He at once took advantage of the absence of the occupant of the cabin and demolished the improvements. He leveled the structure with the ground, and then deliberately cut the old logs and the lumber into firewood.

Bunnell was enraged when he found that Johnson had destroyed his shanty, and threatened to whip him the next time he saw him. Myers did not return to Wabasha prairie. He was dismissed by Bunnell for neglect of duty and left the country.

Bunnell sent messages to Johnson warning him to leave the prairie, or the next time he came up he would whip him like a dog. Johnson sent back answers that he was prepared to defend himself and his claims; that if Bunnell came on the prairie again it would be at his peril.

Neither of these men were cowards, and serious trouble was anticipated. They were small men—hardly of medium size, Johnson a little larger and heavier of the two and of coarser make-up. Bunnell was firmer built and active in his movements, a dangerous antagonist for a much larger man in any kind of a fight.

Satisfied that "talk" would not win the claim and irritated by Johnson's successful opposition, Bunnell, in company with Harrington, drove up to the prairie one evening for the purpose of assaulting Johnson if a favorable opportunity offered. Both had stimulated to a fighting degree and were primed for the purpose.

Going first to the Stevens shanty, Bunnell there found Clark and Nash, who had called on a social visit. He inquired for Hamilton and learned that he was at Johnson's. Gilmore and Wallace were on the other side of the river at Farrell's. After a short visit they left without betraying the object of their evening visit on so dark a night.

They went directly down to Johnson's shanty. Bunnell knocked at the door. On being told to "come in" he entered, saying, as he rushed toward Johnson, who with Hamilton was sitting by the fire, "Get out of this if you want to live." Johnson sprang for his revolver, which was in his berth, but the attack was too sudden; he had no opportunity to use it before he was knocked down and disarmed.

Hamilton bolted from the shanty at the first clash of the combat and ran for help. He arrived almost breathless at the other shanty, a mile away, and gave the alarm by excitedly exclaiming, "Bun-

nell is killing Johnson ; come down quick as you can." Clark and Nash at once started back with Hamilton on a run for the scene of conflict. When about half way they were met by Johnson, who, although apparently injured, returned with them. They found that the shanty had been demolished, but the assailants had disappeared.

Johnson was taken up to Clark's shanty, where he was provided for and carefully attended. He was found to have been badly bruised about the head, chest and arms. His face and hands were badly swollen and covered with blood, but no bones were broken. It afterward proved that no serious injuries had been received. Johnson had been terribly beaten by Bunnell and was compelled to lay up for repairs.

When the battle-ground was visited in the morning the full extent of damages to the "pioneer claim shanty" was revealed. The first evidence of actual settlement on Wabasha prairie had been destroyed. The pile of brick and stone which formed the fireplace, with some broken dishes, marked the locality where the little cabin once stood. It had been turned over and with its contents thrown on the ice of the river.

Johnson's supplies and other traps were secured and carried up on the bank, where they were sheltered with the lumber from the shanty. The stable and cattle had not been disturbed. Johnson and Nash lived with Clark until their shanty was reconstructed. Johnson's revolver and double-barreled gun were carried off by Bunnell as trophies of his victory.

Soon after this affray, Peter Gorr and Augustus Pentler came over from the island to visit the settlers on the prairie. Mr. Gorr had his rifle with him, which he was induced to leave with Johnson after hearing the incidents of his quarrel. Johnson then sent word to Bunnell that he would shoot him on sight if he ever made his appearance on the prairie again.

Bunnell had no design to interfere with the occupancy of the claim at the lower landing. His attack on Johnson and destruction of the shanty was for retaliation and to intimidate him. He became satisfied that he would not be able to hold the claim at the upper landing without some serious fighting, and, having no desire to kill Johnson or be killed himself in the attempt, he decided to abandon his claim speculation on Wabasha prairie and turn his attention to what he thought was something better nearer home. The scheme



of building up a town along the bluffs above the present village of Homer was started about this time, in which Bunnell was for awhile interested. Bunnell returned to Johnson the revolver and gun he had taken from him, peace was negotiated, and the "little difference" that had existed between the parties "dropped" without further action. Bunnell, however, became more emphatic in maintaining and more free in expressing his opinions of "that sand bar up there," and more zealously advocated his theory that the "main land" was the only place for a permanent settlement.

This was the first attempt at "claim jumping" ever made in the settlement of this county. It was afterward a common occurrence.

M. Wheeler Sargeant, an early settler, once gave a very appropriate definition of a claim in an address before the Winona Lyceum in 1858. He said: "A claim is a *fighting interest* in land, ostensibly based upon priority of possession and sustained by force." Many of the old settlers will readily recognize the pertinency of this description. The law of might, as well as the law of right, was often the means by which possession of claims were retained.

Soon after this first claim quarrel, a claim association or club was formed for the mutual protection of settlers in holding possession of their claims. The first meeting was called to meet at Bunnell's about March 1. The prime movers in the matter were some residents of La Crosse who had recently selected claims on the west side of the Mississippi. They came up prepared to complete the business and the organization was created at this meeting. It was called the Wabashaw Protection Club. The important matters of constitution and by-laws were duly discussed and gravely adopted, and officers elected with customary formality. The settlers from Wabasha prairie attended the meeting, but were in the minority and failed to secure any of the offices. The officials were residents of La Crosse. Mr. George W. Clark was a member of the club and was present at that meeting. He says from the best of his recollection the president was George G. Barber, the secretary, William B. Gere.

The Wabasha Protection Club was the first regular organization of any kind among the settlers ever formed in the county.

It was not entirely a fable coined by Bunnell when he represented to Johnson that the Sioux were dissatisfied with the manner in which the settlers were taking possession of their lands before the treaty was ratified. Whether Bunnell was aware of the fact or not



ABRAM HARKINS.



is not now positively known ; but it is very probable that he knew the Indians designed to demand a bonus from the settlers for the privilege of remaining undisturbed. It was supposed that the treaty would be ratified during that winter, but it was not fully confirmed by government until the next year.

During the winter some officious personages had given the Indians begging letters addressed to the settlers recommending that contributions be given to the Sioux of Wabasha's band to keep them quiet and peaceable until the ratification of the treaty. That the Indians were needy, and to prevent dissatisfaction the settlers were advised to contribute to their wants, and suggested that a barrel of flour, or its equivalent in money, be given for every cabin built on their lands.

Some of Wabasha's band came over from the other side of the river where they were camped and presented their written document. To avoid any difficulties or annoyance from them, Johnson agreed to give them the flour, but told them they must wait until the Nominee came up in the spring. To this they consented and went off apparently satisfied with the arrangement. Johnson supposed this was one of Bunnell's tricks to alarm them and that was the finale of it ; but in the spring the Indians returned and demanded the flour. This "shanty tax" assessed by the Sioux was paid by a few of the earliest settlers.

The Sioux and Winnebago Indians visited the settlers on Wabasha prairie frequently during the winter and were at all times friendly. There was not a single instance where it was known that they disturbed a settler or his property, not even in the absence of the owner.

Johnson rebuilt the shanty on Capt. Smith's claim, but put it on the bank a little way back from the river and a few rods below where it first stood. This was an improvement on the first structure. It was about  $8 \times 12$ . The fireplace so much valued by Johnson in his first cabin was omitted in its reconstruction. Johnson induced Augustus Pentler with his wife to occupy this shanty. He boarded with them and made it his home until he built a shanty on his claim at the upper landing. Mr. Pentler lived in this place three or four months and then made a claim on the river below Bunnell's along the bluffs, where he lived for several years. He is now living in the western part of the state.

Mrs. Pentler was the first white woman among the early settlers



to make Wabasha prairie her place of residence—the first white woman that settled in what is now the city of Winona.

About March 1, Silas Stevens and his son, William H. Stevens, came up from La Crosse on the ice. They brought with them a pair of horses, wagon and sleigh. This was the first span of horses brought into the county by a settler. There had been no demand or use for horse-teams. In banking wood and hauling logs ox-teams were the most useful and economical. Bunnell kept a saddle-horse, which in winter he drove harnessed to a kind of sleigh called a train, a kind of conveyance peculiarly adapted to travel over unbroken trails drifted with snow.

On the arrival of Silas Stevens Mr. Clark delivered up to him his claim and gave possession of the shanty and other property entrusted to his care. About this time, or not long afterward, Mr. Nash put up a small log cabin on claim No. 2. Clark and Gilmore occupied this with Nash as their headquarters until they built shanties on their own claims. This shanty stood about two blocks back from the river on what is now High Forest street. It was about  $10 \times 12$ , built of small logs and covered with bark. The bark for the roof and the lumber used in its construction was taken from the old Indian huts or tepees, which were standing on the prairie about a mile above the upper landing.

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## CHAPTER XIX.

### FIRST IMPROVEMENTS.

DURING the latter part of the winter and early in the spring of 1852 quite a number of claims were selected, and on some improvements commenced. These "betterments" were simply a few logs thrown together, forming a sort of pen and designed to represent the nucleus of a future residence. When the Indians assessed the settlers they did not consider these improvements sufficient to justify the levying of a tax, notwithstanding the importance attached to them as evidence that the land was claimed and settled upon.

The claim made by George W. Clark in the fall previous was staked off and possession indicated by a few logs. The half mile west

of it was taken by Jabez McDermott and the next by Josiah Keen. These two young men had been living at Bunnell's Landing, but about the time they made their claims they went up to the Rolling Stone, where they engaged in getting out black walnut logs with Noracong and McSpadden.

Clark also selected a location across the slough, which he held in the name of his brother, Scott Clark, then living in New York. This claim is now the farm on which George W. Clark resides.

Allen Gilmore made his claim next west of the one selected for Scott Clark. He built a log cabin in the grove west from where the Clark school-house now stands. It was from Allen Gilmore, and because of his living nearest, that Gilmore valley was given its present name. Mr. Gilmore occupied this locality until his death, which occurred March 29, 1854. It was purchased from the administrator of the estate, Dr. John L. Balcombe, by Orin Clark, a brother of G. W. Clark, who came into the county that spring. Mr. Clark occupied it for many years. He now lives in the city of Winona, but still retains possession of the grove. The other portion of the claim is owned and occupied by Mr. Celestial Peterman.

George Wallace made choice of a location back of the lake, where John Zenk now lives. It also included what is now Woodlawn cemetery.

Peter Gorr made a claim on the river just above Bunnell's. He here built a small log cabin, which he occupied with his wife and three children.

In narrating some incidents of early days, Mr. Gorr says that during the winter of 1850-51 Augustus Pentler worked for Bunnell by the month chopping on the islands. In the spring he returned to Illinois, where his wife was then living. During the summer Pentler and Gorr came up the river together and stopped off at La Crosse, where they remained for a few days, but not finding employment, they crossed the Mississippi and came up the river on foot over the trail along the bluffs. At Brown's they stopped to rest and get something to eat. Mr. Brown furnished them a luncheon, but, learning that they were going up to Bunnell's for work, he declined to receive pay for the refreshments provided.

In speaking of Mr. Brown he very emphatically remarked: "I have known Nathan Brown a great many years. He was the *whitest white man* among all the old settlers in this county. He always had the courage to do right and never wronged any man

willfully that I ever heard. He feared no man, but he treated everybody with decency and gentlemanly. That was the reason why he was respected by everybody. Even the 'cussed' Indians respected him and had confidence in his integrity. Strangers as well as acquaintances were always welcome to his hospitalities. No one ever left Brown's suffering from hunger if he made his wants known."

Gorr and Pentler worked by the month for Bunnell during that season. In the fall they built a comfortable log cabin on the island opposite Bunnell's and brought their families from Illinois, with the design of settling on the Sioux lands in the spring. They moved across the river about the last of February, 1852, and made their first settlement in this county.

About the time of the quarrel between Bunnell and Johnson, some difficulties occurred from business transactions between Bunnell and Gorr. These choppers took sides with Johnson against their employer. Johnson went down with his oxen and sled and moved them off from the island and drew the logs for the shanty.

Mr. Gorr selected this location as a temporary stopping-place for his family to live until he found a more suitable place for a permanent home. Bunnell objected to his occupying it. Anticipating trouble about the matter, Johnson and the settlers on Wabasha prairie went down and helped put up the cabin. Bunnell met them and strongly protested against their building a shanty on his claim. Gorr started toward him in a threatening manner and told him to "dry up and go home." Bunnell, being alone, considered discretion the better part of valor, and did not interfere with the house-raising.

When W. B. Bunnell and Timothy Burns, lieutenant-governor of the State of Wisconsin, with others, originated the scheme of making that locality a town site, they found Gorr an encumbrance. Lieut.-Gov. Burns offered him twenty-five dollars for his cabin, with a promise of further payment in lots when the town site was surveyed, provided he would abandon the locality. This offer Mr. Gorr accepted, and on June 6 made a claim in what is now Pleasant valley, about a mile above where Laird's flouring-mill stands. He built a log house on it and moved his family there on June 9.

The valley was for several years known as Gorr valley—until it was given its present name. Mr. Gorr was the first to settle in this valley, and among the first in this county to make farming a busi-

ness occupation. He settled here with the design of making it his permanent home, and occupied this farm about ten years, when he sold out and invested in other farming lands. Mr. Gorr is yet a resident of the county and is now living on the bank of the Mississippi, above the village of Homer. The locality was once the town site of Minneowah. His house is within ten yards of the site where he built the log cabin which he sold to Lieut.-Gov. Burns in the spring of 1852.

Henry J. Harrington made a claim in the mouth of Pleasant valley, of what is now known as "Hamilton's Farm." During the season of navigation Mr. Harrington was employed as mate on one of the steamboats running on the upper Mississippi. Early in the spring of 1852 he brought his family to Bunnell's, where they boarded until he had a shanty built on his claim. His first cabin was a low one-story structure, made of small logs or poles, roofed with bark from the Indian tepees in that vicinity. This shanty stood in a grove on the table east of the present farm buildings and on the opposite side of the stream. Here Mrs. Harrington, with a family by the name of Chamberlain, lived until Mr. Harrington built a more permanent house on the west side of the stream.

This second building was a very comfortable story and a half hewed log house, about  $16 \times 20$ , with a cellar under it, walled with stone. This building formed a part of the old farm buildings on "the farm." Mr. Harrington made some improvements. He had about ten acres of breaking fenced in with a rail fence, which he planted to corn. He also cultivated a garden and set out some fruit-trees. It was his design to open up a stock farm here, but he did not live to carry out his plans. He died in 1853. His funeral was on Sunday, June 12.

Mrs. Harrington leased the house and cultivation to Patrick Nevil, who came into the county that fall. She stored her household goods in a part of the house and went down the river among her friends to spend the winter, leaving the care of her property to her agent, George M. Gere, Esq. Early in the spring Mr. Gere sold the claim to M. K. Drew for \$400, giving a quit claim deed subject to the lease of Mr. Nevil. Some incidents relative to this claim will illustrate the uncertainty of real estate transactions while the title to the land was in the United States.

Mr. Nevil lived on the Harrington place through the winter, and in the spring made a garden and planted the enclosed field with



corn. During this time he made a claim in the valley opposite to Gorr's, where he had some breaking done and built a shanty. This is now the farm of his son, John Nevil. Having an opportunity to dispose of his crop to a cash customer, he sold his lease to John C. Walker, a recent arrival with a family, and moved on his own claim.

In this transaction Mr. Nevil gave Walker a quit claim deed and possession of the house. Walker then assumed to be the proprietor and real owner of the claim, and successfully resisted all attempts of Mr. Drew to acquire possession, even after the lease had expired or was declared void. He barricaded the house and with his family closely guarded the premises. Under no pretext was anyone permitted to pass the boundaries of the fence which inclosed the improvements.

Mr. Gere, justice of the peace and agent of Mrs. Harrington, with the constable, Harvey S. Terry, attempted to obtain entrance to the house by demanding the household goods of Mrs. Harrington stored in the dwelling. They were met at the "bars," by the whole Walker family. Mr. Walker, with his gun in his hands and revolver in his belt, Mrs. Walker, armed with a huge carving knife, the children carrying an ax, a scythe and a pitchfork. The officers of the law hesitated "to storm the castle against such an armed force," and called a parley for negotiations. Mr. Walker did not object to deliver up the goods, but would not admit them into the enclosure. He stood guard while Mrs. Walker and the children brought the furniture from the house and delivered it outside the fence. Walker refused to relinquish the claim to Mr. Gere, but sent word to Mr. Drew that he did not desire to be mean about the transaction, and would pay him \$400 for the claim, the amount he had paid to Mrs. Harrington, provided they would give a quit claim and leave him in peaceable possession of the property. Finding the speculation an unprofitable one, and glad to get his money back, Mr. Drew accepted the proposition and the claim became the "Walker Farm." Mr. Walker occupied this locality about ten or twelve years, when he sold out and went south.

Hirk Carroll made a claim in the timber below Harrington's, which he sold to Silas Stevens. He also made other selections along the river at various places, but did not locate on any until he made a claim on the head waters of Pine creek, in what is now the southern part of this county, where he made a permanent settlement and home for his family.

The sale made by Hirk Carroll to Silas Stevens was the first "real estate" transaction, the first sale of a claim ever made in the early settlement of this county. Mr. Stevens had such confidence in the development of the country and future growth of a commercial town on Wabasha prairie that he gave Carroll \$50 if he would relinquish the claim and let him have possession of it. It was held by Mr. Stevens for a year or two afterward in the name of his son, Wm. H. Stevens. It was the design of Mr. Stevens to make this locality a site for a steam saw-mill, expecting to use the slough for the purpose of storing logs brought down the river.

Mr. Stevens gave his claim on Wabasha prairie into the hands of his son, Wm. H. Stevens, to hold possession, and returned to La Crosse, where he continued to carry on his lumber business.

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## CHAPTER XX.

### WESTERN FARM AND VILLAGE ASSOCIATION.

ON February 26, 1852, William Haddock and Arthur Murphy arrived in this part of the Territory of Minnesota. They were agents of an organization called the Western Farm and Village Association, explorers and prospectors for a town site and farming lands.— With packs on their backs, each carrying a buffalo-skin and some camp supplies, they came up the river on skates from La Crosse.

In a letter or report to the Association, published in the official organ of that body, "The Farm and Village Advocate," Mr. Haddock says: "After leaving La Crosse we pursued our journey slowly up the river on the ice, hugging as closely as possible the Minnesota side of the river, for the purpose of making observations. After traveling until about noon we stopped for dinner at a young trader's, who happened to have a smoking dinner just ready for consumption.

"Having no time to lose, we resumed our tramp. Without perceiving any cabin or other dwelling, we proceeded on our journey until the shades of evening began to gather round. Having brought up at the lower extremity of a sandy island, we doffed our

buffalo-skins, selected a spot for a camp, collected wood, lit up a fire, spread out our skins, and entered upon the full enjoyment of the dubious pleasures of 'camping out.' - To camp out, however, is not a very agreeable thing to a person not accustomed to it, especially in a cold February night.

"A few miles of travel in the morning, after camping, brought us to a new town site, just developed, called Waubashaw, situated on a small prairie running out from the foot of a range of bluffs toward the river.

"According to the opinion of many persons at La Crosse, this place is destined to be the largest town below Lake Pepin. Although there are only four or five shanties on the prairie at the present time, yet the whole site is taken up, and already have the claimants begun to fight about their 'claims.' Waubashaw will yet furnish some rich examples of discord, and is destined, I fear, to become a prey to speculation, whatever may be its natural advantages. In our opinion it has not much to boast of except a good landing. The land is poor and generally low, and a portion of it subject to overflow.

"A few miles above Waubashaw we came to a quiet little opening in the almost endless range of bluffs, and hove to on our skates for the purpose of making observations. On reaching the shore we passed over an open, but rather a low and marshy prairie, for about half a mile, when we came to a most beautiful opening of comparatively high table-land, covered with oak.

"The extent of this opening is fully large enough for our entire village plat, exclusive of the low land on the river, which can ultimately be filled up and divided, as business plats among all our members, proving a source of great gain as business increases and the town becomes settled. There is considerable variety of surface in the town plat which settlement will remedy, but take it as a whole, I do not know that I have seen anything to surpass it. Indeed, I may say that it is beautiful, and throws Waubashaw and Prairie La Crosse entirely in the shade."

Haddock and Murphy, on their way from La Crosse, passed Wabasha Prairie and skated up Straight Slough, supposing it to be a main channel of the river. On their way up the slough their attention was attracted to the general appearance of the mouth of the Rolling Stone Valley. On examination of this locality these townsite hunters found, to their disappointment, that their ideal village

sight, so opportunely discovered, was occupied. Civilization had already sprouted on this part of the late "Sioux Purchase."

Israel M. Noracong claimed one hundred and sixty acres in the mouth of the Rolling Stone Valley, where he had built his shanty, his claim covering the present village of Minnesota City. They put up with Noracong and explained to him the object of their visit, the designs and advantages of the association represented by them, and the benefit the organization would be in the settlement of the part of the territory in which it was located. Mr. Noracong at once became interested in their plan of colonization.

Finding that he was willing to compromise matters with them, they made arrangements by which he was induced to relinquish all of his claim, except about fifteen acres of land where his cabin stood, which included a mill-site on the stream. This mill-site is the locality where the flouring mill of A. E. Elsworth now stands.

After satisfactory arrangements had been made with Noracong, and before any explorations of the surrounding country had been attempted, Haddock and Murphy, in the name of the association, made claim to all the lands in the valley of the Rolling Stone, and to all the country lying adjacent. This was the largest claim ever made in the county under any pretense whatever.

They at once commenced to lay out a village plat in accordance with a general plan, previously adopted by the association, which they had brought with them. This was the first town site surveyed and platted in southern Minnesota.

A rough plat of the locality was made, with which Mr. Murphy returned to New York city to report their discoveries. Mr. Haddock remained to *hold the claim* and continue his survey of village lots. The survey was commenced with a pocket compass; the measurements were made with a tape line belonging to Mr. Noracong.

This locality was the scene of many important events in the early settlement of this county, some of which will be noted in other chapters.

In the spring of 1852 the ice went out and the Mississippi was open in this vicinity on March 15. The first steamboat from below was the Nominee, which arrived at Wabasha prairie on April 1. This boat only went up as far as Lake Pepin on account of the ice. On its second trip it passed through the lake April 16, and was the first steamboat to arrive at St. Paul.



Capt. Smith brought up on the Nominee quite a number of passengers, who landed on Wabasha prairie, and also some lumber and supplies for the settlers. As soon as the material arrived, Johnson built a shanty on No. 4, his claim at the upper landing. This building was on what is now Center street, between Second and Front streets. It was  $12 \times 16$ , with a shed roof of boards, the eaves of which were about five feet from the ground. This was for awhile the hotel, the general stopping-place for all who got off at what was then known as Johnson's Landing. Every claim shanty was, however, the stranger's home, if application was made for shelter and food.

Jabez McDermott built a log shanty on his claim, a little southeast from where the shops of the Winona & St. Peter railroad now stand. The roof was a covering of bark. All of the material for this shanty was taken from the Indian tepees which stood near by. This locality was the site of Wabasha's village—the village of the band of Sioux of which he was the chief, and their general gathering-place. There were seven or eight of their cabins standing when McDermott made a claim of their village.

These Indian tepees were constructed with a framework of posts and poles fastened together by withes and covered with broad strips of elm bark. The roof was peaked, the bark covering supported by a framework of poles. For the sides the strips of bark were of suitable length to reach from the ground to the eaves. They were oblong in shape, about  $15 \times 20$  feet, the sides about four or five feet high. The bark covering was fastened by poles outside secured by withes. No nails or pins were used in their construction. Inside they were provided with benches, or berths, from two to three feet wide and about two feet from the ground, extending around three sides of the hut. These seats, or sleeping-places, were composed of poles and bark. Some sawed lumber was also used about these tepees. The lumber, boards and planks, found there by the early settlers was probably taken from the river, brought down by floods from wrecks of rafts.

There were two or three of these tepees in the mouth of Gilmore valley near the Indian cultivation. One much larger than the others was about  $20 \times 30$ . There were also two or three in the mouth of Burns valley. They were all of the same style of architecture and similarly constructed.

These cabins were but summer residences for the Sioux and were

but temporarily occupied in cold weather, when they usually fixed their hunting camps, of skin or cloth tents, in the timber on the river bottoms. The Indians sometimes halted in their migration and stopped in them for two or three days at a time after the first settlers came here in 1851, but they abandoned them entirely in the spring of 1852. These tepees were torn down in the forepart of this season. While the Sioux remained in this vicinity they sometimes visited the settlements, and were at all times friendly without being familiar or troublesome.

Soon after the opening of navigation another town site was discovered on the Mississippi below the mouth of the White Water. Two or three brothers by the name of Hall selected this location. It was known as Hall's Landing. No special effort was made to develop its advantages until the following year, when the town of Mt. Vernon was laid out, about two miles below the mouth of the White Water.

During 1851 and 1852 there was quite a rush of immigration to the country on the upper Mississippi. Among the localities in the western part of the State of Wisconsin which attracted considerable attention from this moving population was La Crosse. After the treaty with the Sioux in 1851 many of these immigrants made La Crosse a temporary halting place until opportunity was given to make selections of locations on the west side of the river. A very large majority of the first settlers in southern Minnesota were of this class.

With the exception of the colony that settled at Minnesota City, Winona county was first settled almost entirely by these temporary residents of La Crosse. During the winter some of these citizens of Wisconsin came up the river on the ice and selected locations on Wabasha prairie and in its vicinity. In the spring they, with others, visited this part of the territory to see the country, and made claims in a more formal manner.

These claims were usually marked by writing the name of the *claim-maker* on the stakes which defined the location selected, or, if in the timber, the trees were blazed and the name of the claimant conspicuously displayed. As the season advanced it became necessary to represent some improvements. A few logs laid up, as if a future cabin was contemplated, a few furrows with a plow, or a little corn or vegetables planted, gave evidence that the claim was occupied. These claims were usually acknowledged by the settlers and

mutual protection given, although the laws governing claims were not fully complied with.

Among those who came up during the winter and selected locations, and who afterward became residents of Wabasha prairie, was William B. Gere, commonly called "Beecher Gere." He made a claim south of and joining both of the claims of Johnson and Stevens. Although a settler could not hold, legally, but 160 acres, this claim was laid on a sliding scale, and for a while Beecher Gere's claim covered twice that amount of land.

Enos P. Williams, then in the employ of Silas Stevens at La Crosse, selected the location adjoining Gere's on the east. This is now known as Hubbard's addition.

Elijah Silsbee selected the one next west of that claimed by Gere, and a man by the name of Hobbs took that next to Silsbee's on the west.

Frank Curtiss discovered that there was room for another claim between that selected for Scott Clark and the claims of McDermott and Keene, and located himself there.

Walter Brown selected a location in what is now Gilmore valley, in the mouth of the ravine about where the brickyard of Mr. Bersange is now located.

George G. Barber made choice of one adjoining Brown's in the valley above.

Rev. George Chester, a Methodist minister—the first that settled in La Crosse—made a claim in Gilmore valley where the county farm is now located. The first sermon ever delivered to the early settlers of Winona county was preached by Mr. Chester on Wabasha prairie while on this visit to Minnesota. Mr. Chester never made any improvements on his claim, neither was he ever a resident of the county.

A colored man, a barber in La Crosse, by the name of Williams, made the first claim across the slough on the upper prairie. It is now the residence of George I. Parsons. The claim shanty was near the railroad.

Some of the early visitors from La Crosse who came up with Mr. Chester, Mr. Barber and others, returned without selecting locations, although they afterward became residents of Wabasha prairie. Dr. John L. Balcombe, John C. Laird and Abner S. Goddard were among this number. Mention will be made of them at a later date.

Henry C. Gere came up from La Crosse early in the spring, and

landed at what was then known as Johnson's landing, with his family, household goods, and lumber for a shanty. During the winter previous he visited the prairie and professed to have selected a claim, but refused to point it out,—none of the settlers were aware of his choice of location.

It afterward appeared that about the time of the "difference" between Bunnell and Johnson, a friendship, or rather an acquaintance was formed between Gere and Bunnell, and a plan laid to jump the Stevens claim. As Mr. Stevens was a non-resident, Gere was to locate himself on the claim with his family, and Bunnell was to aid him to keep possession of it. It was represented by Bunnell that he had selected this claim for H. C. Gere, and had made some designative marks on the back side of it, next to the claim selected by Wm. B. Gere. Until spring no boundaries were marked on any of the claims, except the claim-stakes driven along the bank of the river by Stevens and Johnson in the fall of 1851. After the frost left the ground in the spring these claims were marked by corner stakes in the rear.

Gere also pretended that he was a partner with Stevens in the lumber business at La Crosse when the claim was made,—that it was a joint speculation which Mr. Stevens ignored.

A day or two before Gere left La Crosse with his family, Silas Stevens learned that he professed to have an interest in claim No. 3 on Wabasha prairie, and that he was going there to live. Being well acquainted with Gere, and fearing trouble from him, Mr. Stevens came up to the prairie and there awaited his arrival.

With well-assumed confidence that he had an undisputed right to the Stevens claim, Gere secured the services of Johnson with his oxen and sled, loaded with lumber, and started with a friend or two to take possession of it. As he approached the west boundary of the claim with his load of lumber, he was met by Silas Stevens, Wm. H. Stevens, George W. Clark and Allen Gilmore. With the exception of Silas Stevens this party was armed, although no revolvers were in sight. Each carried a strong cudgel, except Wm. H. Stevens, who handled a gun and assumed the position of leader. He ordered Gere to halt and not attempt to cross the claim line with his lumber. This claim boundary was a line due south from the claim stake, which stood on the bank of the river about midway between what is now Walnut and Market streets. Meeting so firm an obstruction, Gere and his party with the load of lumber moved back on the



prairie along the designated line, escorted by the Stevens party, until the south boundary of the claim was passed. The escort then stood guard while Gere put up a shanty on the claim of his nephew, Wm. B. Gere.

The shanty built by H. C. Gere stood on the east side of Franklin street, between Wabasha and Sanborn streets, on the lot where Thomas Burk now lives. It was 12×12 when first built, and covered with a board roof, but was afterward enlarged to 12×18, and covered with a shingled roof, sloping the length of the shanty. Mr. Gere lived there until the spring of 1854, when he moved onto a claim in the mouth of West Burns valley. The writer occupied this shanty as his residence and business office in July and August, 1854.

This was but the beginning of Gere's efforts to get possession of the Stevens claim. Other incidents relative to this claim will be given.

Among the earliest arrivals this spring were John Evans and S. K. Thompson. Mr. Thompson did not at once make a claim, but lived on Wabasha prairie, a passive looker-on for some time before he took an active part as a bona-fide settler.

Mr. Evans was an old pioneer, familiar with pioneer life and the settlement of a claim country. He at once commenced prospecting, and soon discovered that Clark was holding two claims. Considering this to be a favorable opportunity to secure a good location near the landing, he selected the one Mr. Clark had made and was holding in the name of his brother, and announced his purpose to make that his claim. Clark earnestly protested against this, but Evans asserted that he had a right to it, that Scott Clark had never been in the territory, and George W. Clark was then holding a claim on the prairie. Evans, with the help of Thompson, had already commenced cutting logs for a cabin, but seeing that Clark was extremely anxious to retain the claim across the slough, offered to let him take his choice of the two he was holding. Finding that Evans was determined in the matter, Clark very reluctantly decided to relinquish the first claim he had made, claim No. 6, provided Evans would abandon the other.

John Evans then took possession of the claim relinquished by Clark and commenced making improvements. This was afterward known as the "Evans Claim." Chute's and Foster's additions were parts of that claim. It was on what is now known as Foster's

addition that Mr. Evans placed his buildings. It was here that he lived while a resident of the county, and where he died. While living here Mr. Evans opened up a farm and inclosed the whole claim with a rail fence. He at one time had a field under cultivation which comprised about half of his claim, on which he raised several crops of wheat, corn, etc. He then disposed of a part of it (Chute's addition), and divided a portion into suburban lots, retaining what is now Foster's addition as his homestead.

Mr. Evans did not bring his family here until late in the summer of 1852,—not until he had built a house for them to move into. His house was covered with the first shingled roof ever put on any building on Wabasha prairie; the first shingled roof in the city of Winona.

The family of Mr. Evans, when he located here in 1852, consisted of a wife, two daughters and a son. One of the daughters married O. S. Holbrook; the other became the wife of Erwin H. Johnson. Another daughter, the wife of James Williams, came here about two years after. James Williams is yet a resident of the county. Mr. Evans and all of his family mentioned above are now dead, except his son, Royal B. Evans, who is a resident of the county, living in the town of Wilson.

When George W. Clark relinquished his claim, No. 6, to John Evans, he took possession of the land across the slough in his own name. When his brother came on he aided him in securing another location. Mr. Clark never speculated in city lots or suburban property. His choice of claims was undoubtedly the decisive point in his life as to his future business occupations and home.

Mr. Clark left the State of New York in 1851, with the design to secure to himself a farm somewhere in the western country. He first went to Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, where he had relatives; but learning there of the rush to the upper Mississippi country, he with others started on foot across the state to La Crosse. He there sought employment and secured a situation in the lumber yard of Silas Stevens, where he proposed to remain until he should learn of a satisfactory location for a permanent settlement. Influenced by a higher rate of interest than he had been familiar with in the east, he placed what funds he had with him in the hands of his employer. Familiar acquaintance increased a mutual confidence of the two in each other, and when Mr. Stevens decided to make a speculative investment on Wabasha prairie, in the Territory of Minnesota, he

selected Mr. Clark as his agent. His arrival here on November 12, 1851, has already been narrated.

The force of circumstances compelled Mr. Clark to make selection of the farm for which he had left his father's house and come west. Having decided to locate on his claim across the slough, he gave his whole time and attention to its improvement and increasing his possessions by securing adjoining property by way of speculation.

The first rails used by Mr. Clark in his farming operations were the relics of a fence built by the Sioux to keep their ponies from ranging over their cultivation in the mouth of the valley above. This Indian fence extended from the bluffs to the lake or slough on the bottom, about on the west boundary of his claim, and nearly on the west line of his farm.

These were some of the circumstances of his first settlement here, which, with his determined purpose to locate on a farm, made George W. Clark, the pioneer farmer, the first practical farmer to settle on a claim held exclusively for farming purposes. He began his first improvements on this claim in March, 1852, using the horses of Mr. Stevens for his first team-work, to haul the logs together which he had cut for the purpose of building a claim shanty, before it was jumped by John Evans. Mr. Clark's original claim shanty was located about where his hay-shed now stands, in the meadow near where the lane leading to his present residence leaves the Gilmore valley road.

Mr. Clark has lived on the farm he now occupies about thirty-one years. The little log shanty and straw-covered sheds have been superseded by a large farmhouse and a commodious barn and sheds. He has been a prosperous farmer. Although others engaged in farming operations early in the season of 1852 and made as much improvement on their claims as Mr. Clark, he was the first to settle on any land now held as a farm in this county.

## CHAPTER XXI.

### THE ASSOCIATION CRYSTALLIZED.

THE association by which Minnesota City was first settled originated in the city of New York in the summer of 1851. This organization was never generally understood by the western public, nor its special objects clearly comprehended by the early settlers in this part of the territory. It is, indeed, more than probable that some of its members had but indifferent ideas of its operations and special design when practically demonstrated. The people generally considered the association to be a body of fanatical communists—a socialistic organization with such visionary and impracticable theories of colonization that failure was but an inherent destiny. These mistaken ideas and false impressions prejudiced other settlers against them from the first. The apparently clannish exclusiveness and mysterious manner of the colonists confirmed these vague opinions and excited a jealous rivalry with settlements in other localities. A mutual antagonism resulted, which time alone dissipated, but not until long after the association had ceased to exist as an organization.

This association was composed of persons of different nationalities, different religious and political opinions, and of different business occupation, united for a special object. It was an emigration society, designed to aid its members in leaving the city and forming a colony on government lands in the west. The organization was but a temporary one, and never designed for any other purpose.

That the plan of colonization was practicable under favorable circumstances, in the hands of practicable men and under the management of practicable leaders, there is but little doubt. That it was, to a great extent, a failure, that the results were not fully in accordance with that anticipated from its programme of operations, was evidently attributable to the incapacity and inexperience of the leaders rather than to radical defects in the plan. Justice to these pioneer settlers of the county exacts a brief sketch of the organization by which the colony was located.

William Haddock, one of the discoverers of the town site at the mouth of the Rolling Stone valley, was the founder and president of



the association. In July, 1851, Mr. Haddock, then a journeyman printer living in New York city, conceived the idea, and in a public lecture at a meeting of mechanics called by him for the purpose, presented the outlines of a plan whereby the mechanics of the city would be able to secure "homes in the west," to leave the city and locate on government lands, to go in a body and form a colony.

His audience manifested considerable interest in the subject of his lecture, and appointed a committee to take the matter into consideration and draw up a code of laws for an organization on the plan proposed. The committee made a report the following week, and a form of organization was effected, with William Haddock as president and Thomas K. Allen secretary. It was not, however, until about the middle of September that the association was considered fairly organized, although weekly meetings were held for the purpose of perfecting the laws and in many ways modifying the original plan proposed by Mr. Haddock.

That the plan adopted may be impartially presented, the following extracts have been copied from the "Constitution and By-Laws of the Western Farm and Village Association."

#### PREAMBLE.

WHEREAS, We whose names are hereunto subscribed are desirous of locating ourselves advantageously on government lands in some of our western states or territories, and,

WHEREAS, We wish at the same time to avail ourselves of all the advantages of civilization which can be immediately secured only by emigrating in large companies and settling in close proximity, we do hereby adopt, for the more effectual attainment of our object, the following constitution and by-laws, to which each one of us subscribes and pledges himself to conform:

#### CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I. SECTION 1. This association shall be styled "The Western Farm and Village Association, No. 1, of the City of New York."

(Sec. 2 enumerates the officers.)

ARTICLE II. Object and plan of action.

SEC. 1. The object of this association shall be the organization and settlement of one or more townships and villages on the public lands, in some of the western states or territories of the United States, with the view of obtaining, if possible, a free grant of the same from congress.

SEC. 2. The number of members which this association may embrace shall not exceed five hundred, and shall consist of a proportional number from each of the principal departments of industry.

SEC. 3. The condition upon which congress shall be solicited to make a free grant of land to members of this association shall be actual settlement and im-

provement; and no member shall be allowed to subscribe for more than 160 acres and a village plat of four acres.

SEC. 4. As soon as the funds of this association shall permit, an experienced and reliable member shall be commissioned to look for a site or sites for a township and village, who shall, while thus employed, act under the instructions of this association, and make such reports to the same from time to time as he may deem necessary, or may be required of him.

SEC. 5. When the member thus commissioned shall have performed the labor assigned him a competent committee shall be elected to re-examine such localities as may have been reported by him, or such other places as may be authorized by the association; which committee shall give a full and true account of each locality to this body.

SEC. 6. The sight of the township and village shall be determined by a vote of this association before any choice of land shall have been made by any of its members; such determination to be based upon the committee of examination, or upon such other facts, circumstances or information as may be deemed important.

SEC. 7. When the site of the township shall have been chosen by the association, the different kinds of land outside the village plat, such as timber, prairie and suburban land, shall be so laid off as to render all the landed advantages growing out of this association as equally available as possible. Maps shall be drawn representing the village, suburban, farming and wood plats, accompanied by a brief description of each and every lot. When this shall have been done and approved by the association, the order of choosing among the members shall be settled by numbers, after which each shall make his selection of lots according to the number of his choice.

SEC. 8. The village site shall be so surveyed as to allow each member of this association, after deducting liberally for streets and parks, to have a village plat of about four acres.

SEC. 9. The time of emigration for this association shall not extend beyond the 15th of April, 1852.

ARTICLE III. (Defines the duties of officers).

ARTICLE IV. Membership.

SEC. 1. The qualifications for membership in this association shall be good moral character, industrious habits, and a willingness to conform to the constitution and by-laws.

SEC. 2. Applications for admission into this association may be made through any member of the same, at any regular meeting; whereupon the application shall be immediately laid before the board of directors; if, upon investigation, he or she shall be found acceptable by a majority of the board, they shall report accordingly at the next meeting, when, if the candidate receive a majority of votes of the members present, he or she shall be entitled to a certificate of membership on payment of the initiation fee.

SEC. 3. Every person on being elected a member of this association, shall pay an initiation fee of one dollar. (This was afterward raised to five dollars).

SEC. 4. No member of this association shall be allowed to subscribe for, or hold more than 160 acres of land and a village plat of four acres.

SEC. 5. Any member of this association may be suspended or expelled for misconduct or neglect of official duties; but no member shall be expelled without a fair trial by a committee of five members.

SEC. 6. Should any member desire to withdraw from this association, he or she may transfer his or her interest to any person not already a member, subject to the approval of the association; the said person shall pay a transfer fee of fifty cents, which shall be an acknowledgment of his or her membership. But in the event of this association obtaining a free grant of the land, this section shall be rendered null and void.

SEC. 7. In the event of the death of a member of this association, all moneys paid by the deceased into the society shall, at the option of the association, be promptly restored to his or her legal representatives.

SEC. 8. Persons residing at a distance may, on being elected members of this association, remit their initiation fee and weekly dues to the financial secretary, in sums of one dollar for every eight weeks.

#### ARTICLE V. On the election of officers.

SEC. 1. All officers shall be elected by ballot, and shall serve until the objects of this association shall be attained, unless disqualified by misconduct or incapacity.

#### ARTICLE VI. Dues.

SEC. 1. The weekly dues of all members of this association shall be twelve and a half cents, commencing the first day of August, 1851.

SEC. 2. No dues or initiation fees shall be refunded to members of this association in consequence of their withdrawal from the same.

SEC. 3. If any member of this association shall neglect the payment of his or her dues for a longer time than four weeks, he or she shall be subject to a fine of twelve and a half cents for each succeeding week while in arrears.

#### ARTICLE VII. (Relates to drawing money on deposit).

#### ARTICLE VIII. On disbursement of moneys.

SEC. 1. All moneys paid into this association shall be devoted to the payment of such expenses as are necessary to the attainment of its object, and to no other purpose, and no moneys shall be paid out without a vote of the association.

SEC. 2. When this association shall dissolve, by its own mutual consent, the books of all officers shall be balanced, and if any funds remain on hand after settlement of all liabilities of the association, they shall be equally divided among the members that then exist.

#### ARTICLE IX. (Enjoins harmony among the members).

#### ARTICLE X. (Relates to altering or amending constitution).

#### BY-LAWS.

##### ARTICLE I. (Time and place of meeting).

##### ARTICLE II. (Quorum for transaction of business).

##### ARTICLE III. (Fines of officers for non-attendance).

##### ARTICLE IV. (How discussions shall be conducted).

ARTICLE V. Rule of Order.—As this association is organized for a specific object, its rule of action shall be distinct, and no question shall be in order or

entertained, that does not apply clearly to the object specified in the constitution, and the means of carrying such object into effect; neither shall anything of a sectarian or political character be introduced into the discussions of this association.

The officers were: President, William Haddock; vice-president, Wm. Skinner; recording secretary, Thomas K. Allen; financial secretary, Charles E. Wheeler; corresponding secretary, E. B. Thomas; treasurer, John Brooks.

The board of directors were Augustus A. Gilbert, J. T. Caldwell, James Wright, James Potter, E. B. Tanner, Charles Bannan, John Hughes and D. Robertson.

As soon as the organization was effected the scheme was favorably advertised in the editorial columns of the New York "Tribune" and other papers. A few numbers of an official paper, called the "Western Farm and Village Advocate," was issued by the association, under the editorial management of Mr. Haddock. The association increased in numbers, but very many of the later members were from outside the city, in New York and other states.

About the first of November Ransom Smith was commissioned to select a suitable location for the colony. After exploring some parts of the States of Wisconsin and Iowa along the Mississippi without accomplishing his object, he resigned his position about the first of January, 1852. When Mr. Smith was appointed exploring agent, he was specifically instructed as to the kind of location that he was expected to make choice of. The city members of the association apparently desired him to make discovery of another garden of Eden, with all modern commercial advantages attached. Mr. Smith failed to discover any locality that very much resembled the one pictured in the written instructions furnished for his guidance. The local members who controlled the organization were nearly all mechanics, the most of them inexperienced in matters outside of their business occupations.

The leaders of the organization were aware that, to insure success and move on the opening of navigation in the spring, prompt action would be necessary in the selection of a location for the colony. Accordingly a locating committee was appointed, consisting of Mr. Haddock of New York, Arthur Murphy of Hempstead, L. I., and A. E. Bovay, a resident of Wisconsin.

The discoveries and selection of Rolling Stone as a location for the colony have been related. This selection was made with-



out proper investigation of its fitness for the purpose designed. Their examination was but superficial, and their decision prematurely made. They assumed that the village site was on the Mississippi, but it proved to be six miles from a navigable channel. This selection was a serious mistake. It was not a proper location for the proposed colony. This very serious mistake was, unfortunately, the cause of its failure. It is true Rolling Stone was first settled by the members of the association, but the organization collapsed before its specific object was accomplished.

When the association was first organized it was supposed possible to secure from congress a free grant of public lands for the members to settle upon, but in case this failed the lands were to be purchased from the government by the members of the association, and each pay for the land he occupied.

Petitions numerously signed by members of the association and others were sent to congress, asking this appropriation for the benefit of the members of the colony. These petitions were presented by Hon. H. H. Sibley, the delegate from the territory of Minnesota. No action was taken, except that the petitions were received and disposed of by being referred to the house committee on public lands.

On the return of Mr. Murphy to New York city from Rolling Stone, the report of the locating committee was duly made to the association. It was received and approved without delay, such was the confidence of the members in the judgment of the committee. Rolling Stone was then formally selected as the location for the proposed colony.

A more elaborate plat of the village site was drawn from that furnished by the committee and lithographed for the members. It was numbered preparatory for the drawing, which took place March 31, 1852.

The following circular was then issued, and sent to each of the members of the organization:

WESTERN FARM AND VILLAGE ASSOCIATION OFFICE, }  
NEW YORK, April 3, 1852. }

DEAR SIR,—The association at length have the pleasure of informing you of their location. Mr. Arthur Murphy, one of our locating committee, has just returned to this city, having in conjunction with our president selected a spot which has been unanimously adopted as our homes. It is situated in the Territory of Minnesota, on the Mississippi river, about forty miles above Root river, and six miles above a place called Wabesha prairie, on a stream of water known as Rolling Stone creek; for a full description of which, with the report

of the committee, the corresponding secretary refers you to the forthcoming Advocate. In the meantime, he has been instructed to send you the following circular, embodying so much of the report of its last meeting as is herein contained.

After the adoption of the report of Mr. Murphy, the association, on motion, went into the choosing of lots; all members whose dues were not paid up to the first of January being declared by vote ineligible to participate. A committee, consisting of Messrs. Cauldwell, Potter and Bannan, were appointed to choose for country members. The names of all those eligible were then placed in one hat, and numbers to the corresponding amount of members in another. Messrs. Thorp and Stradling presided over the names, and Messrs. Gilbert and Fitzgibbons superintended the numbers. A number was then taken from a hat, and a name from the other, and the number so drawn was the choice of the member whose name was drawn with it. The entire list of drawing so made is herein contained, with a map showing the position of the lot up to 132. The reason of there being none higher than this is that the committee, deeming that sufficient, surveyed no more; and members who have drawn a choice over that number will be allowed to choose on the ground, from lots to be surveyed, or from lands forfeited by the non-settlement of members in July, in the order they run above the lots numbered. Mr. Haddock, who is now on the ground, has been telegraphed to survey 100 more; and persons joining now will choose in the order as admitted members.

In addition to the above, the corresponding secretary has to state that the pioneer squad will start from here on Wednesday, the 7th, and passing over the Erie Railroad, will probably arrive at Chicago on or about the 14th; thence by rail and team to Galena, and boat up the river. This will also be the route of the main body, and all members who live near the city, or who can make New York in their route, will meet here on April 14, to start on the 15th, so as to arrive at Galena by May 1.

Should the lakes not be open on April 15 the association will not start on that day, but wait until they are.

Those of our members who may not arrive at Galena by May 1, can learn full particulars of us by inquiring of Col. James Robinson there.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

For, . . . . .

E. B. THOMAS, Cor. Sec'y,  
102 Nassau street.

Accompanying this circular was a plat of the village site and a list of the names of 174 members, with the order of their choice and the number of the lot chosen by or for 132 of them.

## CHAPTER XXII.

### EMIGRANTS COMING.

It was designed that settlement on the lands selected for the colony should be made simultaneously by the members of the association, or as near so as practicable, to prevent intrusion from persons not belonging to the organization. As soon as the locality was formally decided upon a volunteer party already organized started west for the Rolling Stone, to hold possession of the "claim" made by Haddock and Murphy, until the arrival of the main body of the association. This advance guard, to which the name of "pioneer squad" had been given, was a party of eleven men who left New York city on April 7. On their way they were joined by three others, making the total number of this guard fourteen. All of these were young unmarried men except one. Mr. B. Mauby, of New York, was accompanied by his wife and seven children.

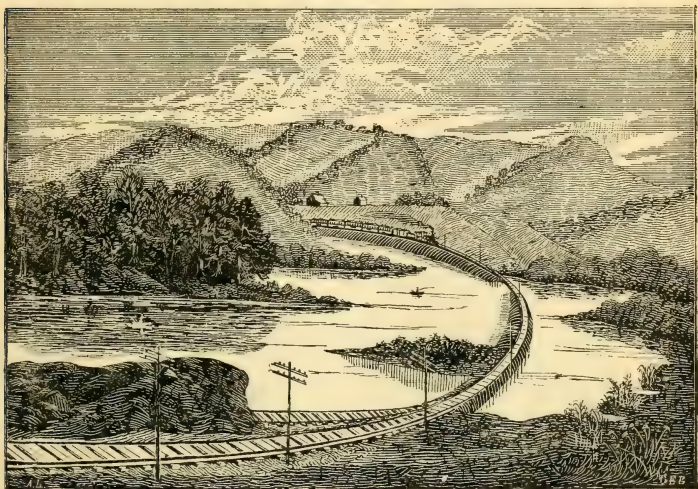
The pioneer squad of the Western Farm and Village Association came up the Mississippi from Galena on the steamboat Caleb Cope, and landed at Johnson's Landing on Wabasha prairie on April 14, 1852. The Caleb Cope was under the command of Capt. Harris, who had chartered her to run as an opposition boat against the Nominee, in place of the West Newton, which was not then ready for the early spring business. The fare, on this trip, was but fifty cents each, for passengers from Galena to Wabasha prairie. Freight was in about the same proportion of discount from regular rates.

This party of immigrants were warmly welcomed at the landing by Mr. Haddock, who had been anxiously expecting them, and had come from Rolling Stone on purpose to meet and guide them to "the promised land."

The following names of this party were furnished by a member of the squad who yet lives in Rolling Stone, at Minnesota City. The names of some of his old comrades have faded from his memory. He is the only one of the "old guard" that is now a resident of Winona county. His name heads this list of names: Hezekiah Jones, Wm. Stevens, J. W. Viney, David Robertson, D. Hollyer,

R. H. Boothe, S. R. Schroeder, John Hughes, ——— Talmadge, ——— Randall, and D. Mauby and family.

They had with them quite a large amount of supplies and camp fixtures, including a large tent, household furniture, a cook-stove, tools, etc., and also brought with them two yoke of oxen and a wagon. The cattle, wagon and household furniture were the property of Mr. Mauby. The oxen and wagon were purchased for him in Illinois, by Mr. H. Jones, who came west in the fall before, and joined this party at Cherry Valley, then the terminus of the rail-



SCENE NEAR THE FIRST SETTLEMENT OF ROLLING STONE.\*

road. The team and wagon were used in transporting their baggage from Cherry Valley to Galena, where their supplies were purchased.

This party landed at about the foot of Main street; their freight was piled on a mound on the bank of the river and covered with the tent. It was there left in charge of one of their number, whose name is now forgotten, but who was designated as the "cigar-maker." Leaving Mr. Mauby and his family here the others hastened on to their destination.

\* The above cut is from a sketch taken and kindly furnished by Austin W. Lord.



Mr. Mauby engaged Johnson's shanty, at the upper landing, as a home for his family, until he could build a cabin for them at the Rolling Stone. He remained with them until they were settled in their temporary abode.

No provision had been made for the subsistence of the cattle. No supplies had been brought along for them, as it was supposed that hay could be readily procured, but none was to be had. There was an unusual rise of water in the river for the time of year, and a strong current was running through the slough, making it difficult for strangers to ford to the upper prairie, and no wagon trail had yet been opened along the bluffs. It was decided to leave the wagon with the freight, but to take the cattle along, as they might have use for them. The oxen were taken up to the Rolling Stone, where they were turned loose to procure a living for themselves, from the old grass on the bottoms, and such browse as they were able to get from the brush along the stream.

Temporary supplies were packed up by the party. They were ferried over the slough by the Indians in canoes. With Mr. Haddock as guide, they followed the trail along the bluffs to Noracong's shanty, where Mr. Haddock was living. Noracong and his party were then away rafting the black walnut logs they had cut during the winter.

Noracong's little shanty, about 8 × 12, stood about where the railroad crossing now is—north from Elsworth's flouring-mill. It was the headquarters of the pioneer squad. Finding their accommodations insufficient, some of the party constructed a kind of hut, to which the name of "Gopher house" was given. One of these "gophers" was built on the table, about fifty rods above where Troosts' flouring mill lately stood. Another one was on the table, about forty rods west from where the school building now stands. These huts were of logs, placed in the form of a house roof, and covered with dry grass from the bottoms, over which was a layer of earth covered with strips of turf arranged to shed the rain. The earth inside of the hut was excavated to the depth of a foot or more to increase the area inclosed. These huts were filled with dry grass and used as sleeping quarters.

This advance guard had volunteered to come on for the express purpose of keeping off trespassers. Although designated the pioneer squad, no other duties were assigned to them or expected from them. They spent their time in explorations of the immediate

vicinity of their camp, and in hunting and fishing, furnishing plentiful supplies of ducks and trout. They all lived in common, each contributing from his own stores for general use. A cook was appointed to take charge of this department, who called for assistants when aid was required. Mr. Jones and one or two others assisted Mr. Haddock in his survey of the village plat, to which he was giving his whole attention.

In this survey, the base of operations was a straight line along the edge of the table on which Troosts' flouring-mill recently stood. It was there the first street was laid off, extending from the lower end of the table to the bluff at the upper end. The village lots and streets were laid off parallel with and at right angles to this street as a base line.

Mr. Haddock attempted to make the survey with his pocket compass, to which he affixed some sights of his own invention or construction, but was compelled to abandon this uncertain process, and rely on his guide poles and measurements. A long rope and poles superseded the tape-line and pocket compass. About two hundred acres were thus surveyed before Mr. Haddock procured a surveyor's compass and chain, with which the survey of village lots and farms were completed.

Mr. Mauby built a log shanty for his family. This stood near where the railroad station at Minnesota City now stands. It was about 12×16 feet in dimensions. The shed roof was covered with strips of elm bark, fastened to poles. This cabin was built on the village lot drawn by Mr. Mauby at the meeting of the association in New York city, March 31.

On May 1, 1852, O. M. Lord, Rev. William Sweet and Jonathan Williams landed on Wabasha prairie from the Dr. Franklin. They were left by the boat at the lower landing, at about ten o'clock in the evening. Applying for lodgings at Pentlers, they found the little cabin already full, densely crowded to overflowing. On looking about to discover what other chances were possible for sleeping quarters, they saw what in the darkness they supposed to be a hay-stack, apparently not far back on the prairie. As nothing more favorable presented itself, they started out from the landing with the expectation that they would be able to make a comfortable bed from the hay at the stack. After traveling a short distance they suddenly became aware that what they had imagined to be a stack was but the form of the bluffs—the outlines of which could be seen in the

distance—they were in front of the “Sugar Loaf,” the top of which, a mile and a half away, could be dimly seen above the horizon. Disappointed in their pursuit of lodgings in that direction, they returned to the river and passed the night on the sand, sleeping soundly wrapped in their blankets.

At daylight they prefaced their explorations of the country by taking observations of their surroundings. Except the broad river, then a raging flood overflowing the lowlands, and the general picturesque views extending in every direction from the landing, there was nothing in Capt. Smith’s town site to excite their admiration or arouse any practical interest. The barren, sandy prairie, recently burned over, was almost entirely destitute of any appearance of vegetable life, except that the few trees and bushes along the river bank were just beginning to exhibit a faint appearance of green. Wabasha prairie was of no apparent value to these practical men, prospecting for good farming land.

Without longer delay than to indulge a good appetite for breakfast, they started for the Rolling Stone, their point of destination. Following the trail along up the river to the upper landing, they took a straight course over the prairie toward the mouth of the Gilmore valley. They were compelled to ford the slough, which was then flooded from the high water in the river. The crossing place, on the trail which they struck, was about a quarter of a mile above where the bridge, on the Gilmore Valley road, now stands. To keep their clothing dry they stripped, and carried it over on their shoulders, with their packs. Following the trail along the bluffs they readily reached Noracong’s shanty, and found themselves on the grounds claimed by the Western Farm and Village Association, and were hospitably received by Mr. Haddock and such of the pioneer guard as were not absent on foraging expeditions to the trout streams in the valleys.

Mr. Sweet was the only one of his party who was a member of the association. Mr. Williams, although not a member, was a proxy representative, prospecting for his son-in-law, H. H. Hull, who belonged to the organization. Mr. Lord was not then in any way connected with the association. He was favorably impressed with its plan of colonization, but was desirous of exploring the surroundings of the locality before deciding to make it his home. He was, however, afterward prominently identified with the affairs of the colony.

Although the almanac plainly showed that the day of their arrival at Rolling Stone was Sunday, the Rev. William Sweet and Deacon Jonathan Williams accompanied the more liberal-minded O. M. Lord on a Sabbath day's journey into the wilderness back of the bluffs, to view the land. Proceeding up the valley of the Rolling Stone, they followed the trail leading out through what is now known as Straight Valley, onto the dividing ridge between the Rolling Stone and Whitewater. Following up this divide they came upon a beautiful prairie, on the edge of which they camped for the night. The next day they explored this locality, and each made choice of a claim. They gave it the name of Rolling Stone prairie, by which it was for a while designated. After selecting their claims they returned to the headquarters of the embryo colony, Noracong's shanty, and made report of their discoveries.

This party of three was the first of any of the settlers to visit the country back of the bluffs of the Mississippi. The claim made by Mr. Sweet was the farm occupied by him for many years afterward. The name of Rolling Stone prairie was, because of his residence here, changed and given the name of Sweet's prairie. Mr. Sweet is now living near Minnesota City. The claim made by Mr. Williams, adjoining that of Mr. Sweet, was for H. H. Hull, who was then living at Scales Mound, near Galena. Mr. Hull came on with his wife later in the season, and occupied the claim shanty of Mr. Sweet through the winter. In the spring he sold the claim made for him by Mr. Williams, and located himself a few miles farther south, in what is now the town of Utica. He lived there a few years, when he sold out and went back to Illinois.

After making this claim Mr. Sweet went back to his home and brought on a part of his family. About the middle of June, he with the aid of the settlers at Rolling Stone built a small log-house, and made some improvements on his claim. In the fall he returned home, leaving his son, a boy about twelve years, to remain and live with Mr. Hull, who, with his wife, was to occupy Mr. Sweet's shanty during the winter. It was made the duty of this boy to drive the cattle down into the Whitewater Valley to water. The boy was treated with a great deal of severity. During one of the coldest days of that winter, the boy without sufficient protection was sent to drive the cattle down into the valley—but he never returned. Mr. Hull found him a few rods from the house frozen to death. The body was put into a sink-hole, and not buried until the next spring.



The claim made by Mr. Lord on Sweet's prairie was never improved by him ; some other settler had the benefit of his choice.

On the second of May a large detachment of the main body of colonists, about fifty in number, men, women and children, bound for the Rolling Stone, came up the river on the Excelsior from St. Louis. This party did not land at Wabasha prairie. Supposing it to be practicable for steamboats to go through Straight slough, if the officers of the boats were inclined to make the attempt, and on account of the extreme high water which made it difficult to get to the mainland from Wabasha prairie, Mr. Haddock had advised this party to make it a condition of their passage that they should be landed at Rolling Stone. Captain Ward, of the Excelsior, promised to land them anywhere they wished, provided it could be done with safety to the boat.

On arriving at Wabasha prairie, the pilot refused to attempt the passage through Straight slough, deciding that it was not a navigable channel. The party continued on, expecting to find a landing-place somewhere above. At Holmes' landing (now Fountain City), the boat stopped to replenish its supply of wood. They here found Thomas K. Allen, the secretary of the association, who, with Augustus A. Gilbert, one of the directors, had landed from the Dr. Franklin during the previous night. Mr. Gilbert had taken a canoe and crossed over to the Minnesota side of the river, leaving Mr. Allen in charge of their baggage. A cow and a breaking plow was a part of their freight.

Learning that there was no prospect of landing from the steamboat near their destination, they bargained with the master and owner of the wood-boat to transfer them to the other side of the river. The German agreed to undertake the trip for fifteen dollars, although he was unacquainted with the river in that vicinity, provided they would help him get his boat back to his woodyard again.

Taking Mr. Allen and his freight on board with the loaded wood craft in tow, the steamboat proceeded on up the river, unloading while on the way. The colonists with their freight and live stock were transferred to the empty scow, which was cast off when about a mile below the mouth of the White Water and near the Minnesota shore. From there they drifted down to Rolling Stone. It was late in the afternoon when they left the Excelsior. By carefully hugging the shore they fortunately succeeded in safely landing, about fifty rods above where Troosts' flouring-mill recently stood.

It was long after dark before the weary immigrants gathered around the camp-fire of the pioneer squad, which had been a beacon to guide them as they poled the sluggish craft across the overflowed bottoms from Haddock slough, down which they had drifted until nearly opposite their landing-place.

Noracong's little shanty was literally packed full of children, with a woman or two to care for them. The "gophers" were crowded to their fullest capacity. The colonists not provided with shelter bivouaced around the camp-fires. The night was a cool but pleasant one. None seemed to suffer from the exposure they were subject to on the first night of their arrival in their new home.

Among the party landed from the wood-boat were S. E. Cotton, wife and child; H. W. Driver and wife, Lawrence Dilworth, wife and four children; James Wilson and wife; James Hatton, wife and four children; Mrs. Charles Bannon; Dr. George F. Childs, wife and niece; David Densmore, John Shaw, M. Fitzgibbons, D. Jackson, William Harris, Horace Ranney, William Sperry, A. A. Gilbert, Thomas K. Allen and others—some families whose names are now forgotten.

It was under such circumstances and condition of affairs that this colony was settled, and some of the members of the association initiated into the mysteries of pioneer life. Many were greatly disappointed; the realities presented to view served to somewhat cloud the illusive fancies pictured in their imaginations, of comfortable homes in the west. Some were discouraged and homesick. Others, strongly dissatisfied with the location, decided to abandon the colony and return down the river. Some of the more courageous announced that they had come to stay, and notwithstanding the prospective hardships to be endured, they cheerfully set about making their arrangements accordingly.

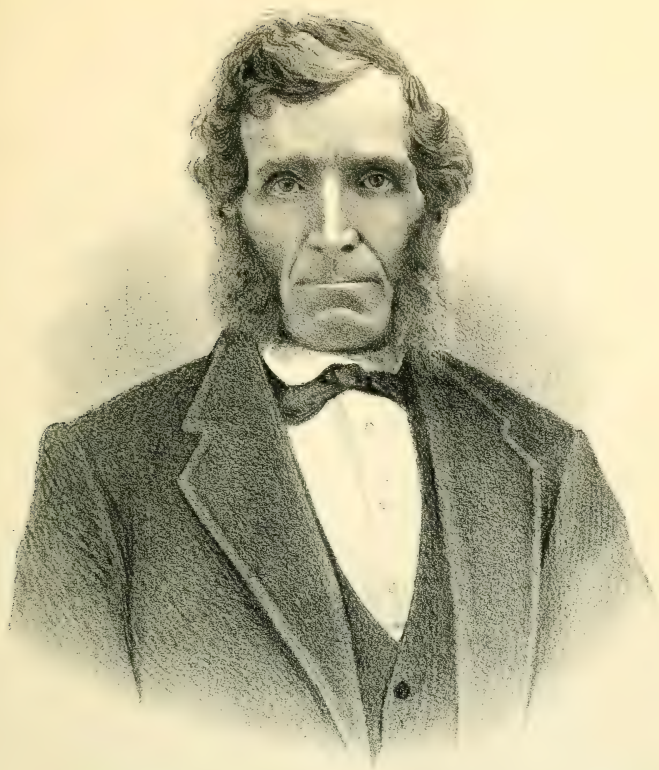
At daylight the next morning the freight was unloaded from the wood-boat, and a party of nine, principally members of the pioneer squad, among whom were H. Jones and William Stevens, assisted the proprietor to land it on the Wisconsin side of the river. On their return the same day they brought with them a small flat-boat, which was at first hired and afterward purchased by the association. This craft was called the Macedonian. It was a roughly-constructed affair of sufficient capacity to carry about three cords of wood, and proved really serviceable to the settlers.

The following morning some of the pioneer squad started with

the Macedonian for Wabasha prairie to bring up their freight and baggage left on their arrival in charge of the "cigar-maker." Dr. Childs, William Sperry, and two other disaffected ones, who had decided to abandon the colony, embraced the opportunity and engaged passage with their families and all of their possessions and moved down to Johnson's landing. The flatboat was landed on Keen's claim, a little north from where the fair grounds were once located. From there the party walked to Johnson's and waited for a steam boat to take them back down the river. Dr. Childs remained in charge of the goods until they were hauled down by Johnson's ox-team, which, with Mauby's wagon, moved the freight of the pioneer squad up to the landing-place of the Macedonian. The flatboat returned with the goods of the pioneer party and also carried up the family of Mr. Mauby, who had been living in Johnson's shanty at the upper landing.

The Macedonian was used as a freight boat during the time of the high water and was most of the time under the control of Captain Jackson. On this first trip it was under the management of Mr. Jones. In speaking of the matter Mr. Jones said: "The wind was blowing quite strong from the east that day and we were heavy loaded both ways. The trip down was a hard one. Thinking to make the return trip easier, I tore off two or three strong poles from the Indian tepees, which we passed on our way up from Johnson's, and rigged a sail by hoisting a portion of the canvas of our tent. We went up at a good rate of speed, but kept in shoal water to please some who were afraid to venture out." This flatboat was usually propelled by oars and poles or was dragged over the flooded bottoms on the upper prairie by means of long ropes, the men who performed this service sometimes wading in the shallow water.

The large tent, which had been brought along by the advance party and used to shelter their goods at Johnson's landing, was put up at Rolling Stone as soon as it arrived at that place. Its location was about twenty rods east of where Stewart's hotel now stands. It afforded some accommodations for the houseless settlers, until they could build more comfortable places for themselves. With their cooking-stoves arranged under the trees, where they cooked and took their meals, the tent afforded shelter and sleeping quarters for several families, besides protection for some of their most valuable goods. They were abundantly supplied with provisions. Unaccus-



THOMAS STEVENSON.





tomed to pioneer life they hardly knew what to do or where to begin to make homes for themselves on the village lots apportioned to each member before he left New York. They were mechanics of different trades, and were willing to use any means in their knowledge to make their families comfortable, but they could not build houses without lumber, and none was to be obtained at any price. But few of the men were handy with the axe or understood how to build a log house.

Seeing the urgent necessity and imperative demand made for lumber, O. M. Lord, accompanied by Mr. Densmore, went up the Chippewa river and brought down a small raft of lumber, which he landed safely about where the wood-boat with its passengers reached the shore.

Mr. Lord here opened the first lumber yard ever in operation in this county. He readily retailed his lumber in small lots and soon exhausted his stock without supplying the demand. He was then engaged by the members of the association to go up to the mills on the Chippewa and purchase a large bill of lumber which they ordered. He was to attend to the sawing, rafting and delivery of the same. This raft was brought down from the Chippewa, attached to a large raft destined for some point on the Mississippi below, and cast off at the head of the slough. He made a successful trip and landed his raft at "Lord's Lumber Yard."

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## CHAPTER XXIII.

### OTHER SETTLEMENTS.

LATE in the evening of May 4, 1852, a party of immigrants, destined for the colony at Rolling Stone, landed from the Nominee at Johnson's landing. With this party were Rev. E. Ely, E. B. Drew, C. R. Coryell, W. H. Coryell, Jacob S. Denman, E. B. Thomas, Robert Pike, Jr., Ira Wilcox, Isaac A. Wheeler, H. Clary, D. Jackson, William Christie, and others whose names are now forgotten.

Rev. Edward Ely came up from La Crosse as a passenger on this boat. He did not belong to the association, neither was he

ever a member of that organization. It was, however, through its influence that he was induced to come to Minnesota.

Mr. Ely was at that time a Baptist preacher—a shepherd without a flock, a pastor awaiting a providential call to a ministerial charge. While in St. Louis with his family, *in transitu* from the State of Ohio to wherever the Lord in his wisdom might send him, he was accosted by Horace Ranney, an acquaintance of his boyhood, who was a member of the Western Farm and Village Association, and one of the party then embarking on the Excelsior for the colony at Rolling Stone in the Territory of Minnesota.

In a few words Mr. Ranney explained the object of the association, and readily induced Mr. Ely to put his family and effects, which were then on the levee, on board the steamboat and accompany them to the promised land. This party was the one that landed from the wood-boat on May 2, as already related. He accompanied them as far as La Crosse, where he stopped off with his wife and two children to afford them comfortable quarters while he visited the colony and acquired some knowledge of the country into which he had almost involuntarily drifted without any special information relative to its demands or resources.

Leaving his family with some kind Baptist friends, he came up on the Nominee to Wabasha prairie, intending to join Mr. Ranney and his friends at Rolling Stone. The disaffection exhibited by some of the members who landed with him, and the action of Dr. Child, influenced him to abandon his design to locate himself in the colony and perhaps decided his future course in life. He settled at Johnson's landing on Wabasha prairie and became a permanent resident of the county and of the city of Winona, where he yet lives.

The estimable qualities of his excellent wife endeared her to the early pioneers. Words will hardly express the high esteem entertained by the citizens of Winona for Mrs. Ely. Her remarkable talent as a portrait painter, duly appreciated by her many friends, has been for many years utilized as a source of income.

E. B. Drew and the Coryell brothers, C. R. and W. H. Coryell, were relatives—cousins. They were also partners in their business transactions. These hardy young men were practical farmers and had previously had some familiarity with pioneer life. They brought with them three yoke of oxen and a cow. A large breaking plow and an assortment of farming tools formed a part of their outfit and

freight. The big covered wagon with which they came through from Chicago to Galena, where they took the boat, was one that had been constructed for them the year before for a proposed trip across the country to Oregon. The wagon-box was made water-tight, that it might be serviceable as a float in fording streams. This was liberally stored with supplies.

J. S. Denman was accompanied by his mother, wife and four children, and brought with him a team of four horses and a large covered wagon, which he used in transporting his family from Brooklin, Michigan, to Galena. He also had a breaking plow, farming tools and abundant provisions.

E. B. Thomas was from the city of New York. From the first organization of the association he had been an active official member, the corresponding secretary and a financial agent.

Robert Pike, Jr., and Elder Wilcox were on a prospecting trip, having left their families in Illinois. As soon as it was light, they, with others, went directly to the colony.

Mr. Pike had been engaged for several years in teaching and lecturing on a system of mnemonics, which he had cultivated and on which subject he had published a book of about one hundred and fifty pages. He joined the association in the fall previous, while living in the State of New York, and came to Illinois, where he had been lecturing on his favorite topic and teaching a school during the winter. After he came here he became prominently identified in the matters of the colony and in county affairs, and held official positions.

Isaac A. Wheeler, with his son John and H. Clary, came on with Mr. Drew's party. They each brought with them a yoke of oxen. These men remained at Rolling Stone until fall, when they left and went down the river to Indiana.

The reports brought down by Dr. Childs were somewhat discouraging to these members of the association. Mr. Denman and Mr. Thomas forded the back slough on horseback and went up to Rolling Stone. Having been previously prejudiced, they very promptly expressed their dissatisfaction of the selection made for the village site and at once abandoned all ideas of settling in that locality. Without delay they returned to the landing.

Greatly surprised at this abrupt and decisive action on the part of these members, Mr. Haddock accompanied them down. He did not like to lose the aid and influence of his ardent co-worker in the



organization and management of the association without some effort to reclaim him, but he failed by any arguments presented to induce him to reconsider his decision.

Learning that Mr. Thomas designed to withdraw from them entirely, Mr. Haddock made a formal demand for the funds in his hands. Mr. Thomas had in his possession a small amount of money, initiation fees and weekly dues, but he declined to surrender it until his accounts were properly audited and accepted. He was then denounced as a defaulter to destroy his influence with other members. This financial matter was subsequently settled at the first meeting of the association in Rolling Stone.

Mr. Drew and the Coryells were not satisfied with the reports made by Denman and Thomas, nor influenced by the opinions of Dr. Childs and his friends, who were then stopping in Johnson's shanty. They "proposed to go up there and look around for themselves." In the afternoon Mr. Drew and C. R. Coryell accompanied Mr. Haddock on his return.

At the crossing place on the back slough an old canoe was kept for the accommodation of the settlers. It would carry two persons comfortably but was unsafe with more. Mr. Coryell took the paddle to set Mr. Haddock across, intending to return for his partner. To save time Mr. Drew stripped and, throwing his clothing into the canoe, followed them over. The water was about four and a half feet deep on the trail, but deeper above and below. The current was strong, and a person was liable to drift into deep water.

By permission, the following entries have been copied from the diary and memoranda of E. B. Drew :

"Landed on Wabasha prairie, Minnesota Territory, Tuesday night after 11 o'clock, May 4, 1852.

"Wednesday, May 5: Went up to Rolling Stone this afternoon and visited the new settlement. Some are homesick and talk of leaving. Found O. M. Lord, from Michigan, there. He was helping to cover Mauby's shanty with a roof of elm-bark. He has been back twenty-five or thirty miles and reports a good country and rich soil, and says he shall settle in this part of the country. We have no women or children to get homesick, and we shall stop here too. Took the flatboat down to the lower prairie. Mr. Lord came down to our camp and staid all night with us.

"Thursday, May 6: Left Wabasha prairie. It is a barren, sandy, desolate-looking place, recently burnt over. Would not

give ten cents an acre for the whole of it. Forded the slough with our teams and cow; crossed without accident, although the water was deep with a strong current. Had to raise the wagon-box on the bolsters to keep the water out. All our traps are now at Rolling Stone."

Mr. Clary crossed the slough with his oxen at the same time and went up with Mr. Drew. Mr. Wheeler remained on the prairie for a day or two before he joined them at the colony.

When Mr. Lord was consulted relative to these incidents he assumed a reflective attitude for a moment and then with an almost audible smile, replied: "That is correct. Wheeler did not come up with Drew. I have reason to remember it. I went down to the prairie the next day and stopped at his camp, not far from where the road now crosses to the upper prairie. After the usual salutations, Wheeler remarked: 'I suppose you are hungry about this time of day.' I was hungry as a wolf, and I told him I would take a bite if it was handy. We were not very regular in our meals at that time, and I saw the coffee-pot and a few brands smoking where they had had a fire. He then took out two or three handfuls of hard biscuit, which he laid on the box where he had been sitting, and said to his son, 'Bring on that meat.' Just then he discovered that his cattle were straying off and started after them.

"The boy brought the meat in a frying-pan and put it on the box. I took hold and made out quite a hearty meal before Wheeler got back. When he returned he glanced at the empty frying-pan and called out to his son, 'Ho, Donald! didn't I tell you to cook some of that ham for supper?' 'Yaas,' replied the youngster, in a surly tone; 'I got a right smart chance on it, but that chap gobbled it all.' Wheeler saw the state of affairs almost as soon as I did, and said, 'Wal, wal, eat some more, can't you? there's plenty of it.' I was somewhat surprised and not a little chagrined to discover that I had eaten up the supper of two hearty and hungry persons, which they had just prepared for themselves. I supposed that they had just completed their meal as I came into their camp."

E. B. Drew's loaded wagon was the first to ford the slough and the first along the bluffs. No wagon trail had ever been opened. O. M. Lord was the pilot and guide on the trail. In crossing the slough Mr. Drew gave his special attention to the care of his cow. In his anxiety for her safety he was forgetful of self and got a "duck" or two. His clothing was in the wagon and did not suffer from his mishaps.

This loaded wagon was the first to make its entrance into the colony of the Western Farm and Village Association. They crossed the creek near Noracong's shanty, Mr. Noracong himself selecting the fording place and directing their movements. This covered wagon was used by Drew and the Coryells as their headquarters—their home for some time after their arrival.

The cow was an important item of their possessions. Bread and milk, mush and milk, and milk as a beverage, were staple luxuries. Fresh butter of home production was sometimes indulged in. Their cooking was done by their camp-fires. Bread was baked in a tin oven before the fire. Sometimes they used an iron bake-kettle, which they covered with hot ashes and coals. For boiling, a kettle was usually suspended over the fire from a pole supported on crotches. Mr. Drew says a heavy tin bucket made the best camp-kettle. It would heat quickly and economized time in cooking. These, with the frying-pan and coffee-pot, were the most important cooking utensils of their camp outfit. Their supplies furnished them a variety in the way of diet. Fresh brook-trout were plentiful and common in their camp.

About daylight on the morning of Sunday, May 9, 1852, another large party, on their way to Rolling Stone, was landed on Wabasha prairie from the Dr. Franklin. Among these passengers were Robert Thorp and son, Robert Taylor, wife and three children, D. McRose, wife and three children, John Burns, wife and three children, James Gardner, wife and daughter, a young woman, and quite a number of others.

On account of the flood and insufficient means for transportation they were detained at Johnson's landing several days. They built a shelter on the bank of the river by piling up their boxes, forming a small inclosure which they covered with boards found near by.

One of the party, Robert Thorp, furnished the following incident. He is yet a resident of the county, a hale and hearty old farmer, living in the town of Rolling Stone. He has preserved his certificate of membership and a copy of it has been procured to show the form of this relic of the association :

No. 37. This is to certify that Robert Thorp has paid his initiation fee and has been elected a member of the Western Farm and Village Association No. 1 of the city of New York.

WILLIAM HADDOCK, President.

CHARLES E. WHEELER, Financial Secretary.

October 15, 1851.

These certificates are embellished with emblems of industry and civilization. But two of them have been preserved. The other is held by James Wright, of Minnesota City, to whom it was given. It is No. 15, and dated August 15, 1851.

When the association was first organized its members were mechanics of different occupations living in the city. Mr. Thorp was a blacksmith, and had worked at his trade in New York for about twenty years. He was born in England.

He left New York on April 15, 1852, with the members of the association who started at that date, taking with him his eldest son, John. The remainder of his family, consisting of his wife and three boys, Thomas, Robert and William, remained in the city about a month before they joined him in Minnesota. All except the last are yet living.

Mr. Thorp brought with him his blacksmith tools and all things necessary to start a shop in the new colony, and also some household goods. On account of delay in the transfer of his heavy freight at Dunkirk he was left behind his party. On reaching Chicago he shipped his own goods and the goods and baggage of William Christie, D. Jackson and others down the canal and Illinois river to St. Louis, taking passage over the same route.

At St. Louis Mr. Thorp bought his supplies in connection with Taylor, Burns, McRose and Gardiner, members of the association, who were there on their way to the colony. They took passage to Galena, where they were transferred to the Dr. Franklin.

To his great surprise and sorrow Mr. Thorp learned that William Christie, who left him at Chicago and whose baggage was with his own freight, had died but a few hours before and was then lying in Johnson's shanty. Mr. Christie had arrived a few days previous on the Nominee and had been up to Rolling Stone. On Saturday he came down expecting to meet Mr. Thorp at the landing. On his way he forded the back slough, and without changing his wet clothing lay down to rest, complaining of not feeling well. He was taken with what was supposed to be cholera, and died before morning.

Mr. Christie was a Scotchman—a large, strong and healthy young man when he landed here. He was highly respected by his acquaintances for his good qualities. He joined the association in New York city, where he was working at his trade as a machinist. For economy he, with others, walked from Cherry Valley to Galena



and came up the river as deck passengers. While at Rolling Stone he had been almost without shelter; the demand was much greater than the accommodation. Provisions of every kind were abundant and none suffered from want of sufficient food. The colonists were liberal in relieving each other when aid was required.

William Christie was buried on the Evans claim. His coffin was made by E. H. Johnson from the common unseasoned pine boards lying on the bank of the river. A short funeral service was held in the open air in front of the shanty by the Rev. Edward Ely. Mr. Thorp, with other members of the association, accompanied by the settlers and strangers on the prairie, followed the dead body to the grave and aided in depositing it in its last resting-place.

The occurrence was one long to be remembered. William Christie was comparatively a stranger. He had died suddenly, far away from the land of his birth and from his personal friends and relatives. His death was the first on Wabasha prairie, the first among the members of the association and the first among the settlers in the county. His funeral was the first, but before the summer was passed funerals were frequent both on Wabasha prairie and in the settlement at Rolling Stone. A young man by the name of Morgan, a stranger, died after a short sickness not long after Christie's death.

A fatal sickness attacked the families camped on the bank of the river. Robert Taylor lost two of his children here. He removed his sick wife to La Crosse, where she soon after died. Mr. McRose lost two children; one of them died on the flatboat while on the way to Rolling Stone.

Mr. Thorp stopped at Johnson's landing for a few days until he could get transportation for his freight and supplies. He then went to Rolling Stone to prepare for the arrival of his family. For temporary accommodation, which could be the most readily provided, he built a "gopher" on the lot drawn by him before he left New York. This location was in the field a little above where the barn of James Kennedy now stands. This hut was an improvement on the ordinary structures of the kind. It was about 12×12. The basement, or part below the surface, was lined with a framework of logs. It was here that the family of Mr. Thorp began housekeeping in Minnesota.

In the morning of May 12th another large party of immigrants for the colony landed from the Caleb Cope at Johnson's landing.

Owing to unfavorable reports in circulation down the river relative to the condition of affairs, some left their families at Galena and came up to explore the country. Among these were James Wright, John Nicklin, David Duryee, James Brooks and many others. Some who landed with their families were compelled to put up temporary shelters on the bank of the river to protect themselves from the drizzling rain while waiting for transportation.

Although the day proved to be stormy, a large number of the men went directly to Rolling Stone. As there was insufficient shelter, a company of nine built a "gopher" for their immediate use. This was constructed by digging a hold about  $8 \times 12$  and about eighteen inches deep, over which a cover was made. The body of this structure was of small basswood logs, about eight feet long and about eight or ten inches in diameter. These logs were split and placed on end close together along the sides and one end of the hole in the ground, with the tops resting on a ridge-pole supported on posts with a crotch at the top. This framework was covered with coarse, dry grass and a layer of earth, over which was laid a covering of sod. The turf, by careful arrangement, made a roof that readily shed the rain of ordinary showers.

In this "gopher hole," on a floor of dry grass, the nine men of this company slept the first night of their arrival, and occupied it as their lodging-place for a week or two afterward. This "gopher" was built on the land now owned by James Wright, and where he now lives in Minnesota city. It was afterward used as a stopping-place for the family of Mr. Wright. The most of this party of explorers decided to continue in the colony. Some sent for their families, others went down the river to escort them up. Mr. Wright and Mr. Nicklin were among the latter.

Mr. Charles Bannon came up the river on the Caleb Cope. He was one of the directors of the association and one of its earliest members. He, with his wife, started from New York with the party that landed from the wood-boat at Rolling Stone. While on the way up the river he left the boat at Davenport and, in company with M. A. Allen, stopped to buy cattle. Mr. Bannon purchased three yoke of oxen and Mr. Allen two yoke, which they drove through the country to Dubuque, where they took passage with their stock. These oxen were designed for use as breaking-teams and for general farm work.

## CHAPTER XXIV.

### FIRST SETTLEMENTS AT WINONA CITY.

To catch the drift from the colony above, Johnson offered the choice of an acre of his claim on Wabasha prairie to each of the disaffected ones who would stop there, build a house, and make it their residence for one year. At that time the claim had not been surveyed or divided into lots and streets. This offer was accepted by several and a number of locations selected.

Rev. E. Ely made choice of an acre south of Johnson's shanty, about where the Ely block now stands, on the corner of Center and Second streets. Jacob S. Denman selected an acre adjoining that of Mr. Ely's on the east; Dr. Childs an acre on the south of Mr. Ely's; E. B. Thomas on the south of Mr. Denman's and east from that of Dr. Childs'; John Evans selected an acre west of Johnson's shanty; John Burns, a member of the association and one of the party who camped on the bank of the river from the Dr. Franklin on the 9th of May, accepted the offer of an acre from Ed. Hamilton on his claim on the same conditions as the others. The acre chosen by him was in what is now the front yard of the residence of Hon. H. W. Lamberton, on the corner of Huff and Harriett streets.

Mr. Burns planted a small garden and set out a few small apple-trees, which he had brought up the river. Some of these trees afterward grew to be of considerable size. These were the first fruit-trees, or trees of any kind, planted on Wabasha prairie by the early settlers. These fruit-trees were planted in a trench near together, as in a nursery. When Mr. Huff took possession of the Hamilton claim he built a fence around the few trees that had escaped the ravages of the cattle, and after two or three years transplanted them in his garden.

W. H. Stevens gave the use of his shanty on the Stevens claim to Mr. Denman until he could procure lumber and build a residence for his family. Mr. Denman found occupation for his team and plow by breaking the land selected for himself and others. They all made small gardens by way of occupancy and improvements. Mr. Denman enclosed his acre and that selected by Mr.

Thomas with a temporary fence and planted the field with corn. This was his first attempt at farming in Minnesota. It was not a profitable enterprise. The fence that enclosed this corn-field was the first fence built on the prairie by the settlers. It was put up by George W. Clark and his brother Wayne Clark. Mr. Denman paid them for it by breaking four acres of land on Clark's claim across the slough.

Neither Mr. Thomas, Dr. Childs or Mr. Burns ever made any other improvements on the lots selected. They abandoned them and made locations elsewhere. Mr. Thomas and Mr. Burns held claims in the colony, but left the territory in the fall. Dr. Childs remained on the prairie for several years after.

Mr. Denman built a house on his acre of prairie as soon as he could procure lumber. Mr. Ely built one in the fall. During the summer his family lived in Johnson's shanty after they came up from La Crosse, where they staid for a short time. He paid Johnson four dollars per month rent for the use of the "Hotel."

The house built by Mr. Denman stood on Lafayette street, between Second and Third streets. This was the first house built by the settlers on Wabasha prairie, not expressly designed as a "claim shanty." It was a balloon frame building of considerable pretensions for that date of improvements, about 16×32, one story high, the sides boarded "up and down" with rough boards and the cracks battened. The roof was of boards, and because of its peculiar construction the building was given the name of "car-house," from its fancied resemblance to a railroad car. The doors and windows were furnished with frames and casings—the first improvements of the kind. The floor was of dressed lumber, a luxury heretofore unknown. This building was divided into rooms by board partitions, and parts of it ceiled with dressed lumber.

Mr. Denman occupied this house as his residence until fall, when he moved on his claim. About the first of July he opened a store in the front room of this building. He brought up from Galena a small stock of goods suitable for the market, and here started the first store on Wabasha prairie for the sale of goods to the settlers. Jacob S. Denman was the first merchant to establish himself in business in what is now the city of Winona.

It was in the "car house" that the first white child was born within the limits of this city. While living here the family of Mrs. Denman was increased by the addition of a daughter on the 18th of



July, 1852. Mrs. Goddard, after consultation with Mrs. Ely, gave to this first native settler the name of "Prairie Louise Denman," the name by which she was afterward known. She has been dead many years. The oldest native settler, born in the city of Winona, who is now living, is Mason Ely, the second son of Rev. Edward Ely, born in 1853.

The primary object of all of the early settlers was to secure land for farming purposes on which to locate a future home. About the first thing done was to "make a claim." Mr. Denman began prospecting as soon as he landed, and on the 9th of May discovered and formally made a claim on the upper prairie. He and his mother there held 320 acres. The high water flooded the bottom lands, and their claims covered all of the land not overflowed, lying east from the Rolling Stone creek, to about where the highway now crosses the railroads, and extended south far enough to include the table next to the bluffs. It was on this table that he blazed the trees and inscribed his name as proprietor of the claim. It was on this table that he built a very comfortable log house, made other improvements, and moved his family there in September. The land selected by Mr. Denman had been previously claimed by Haddock and Murphy for the Western Farm and Village Association. Mr. Denman was duly notified that he was trespassing on grounds claimed for the colony, but he persisted in holding it and making improvements, without regard to the protestations of the members of the association.

This was the first collision of a settler with that organization. The first person to encroach on the territory claimed was an ex-member. To get Denman off, the colonists tried "moral, legal and physical suasion, but he tenaciously adhered." He lived in this log cabin under the bluffs for about three years, until he built a more modern house and large barns near the center of his farm. This claim, or, more properly, the claims of Denman and his mother, are now known as the Denman farm. It is at present owned and occupied by Mr. George Fifield.

Mr. Denman sacrificed this large farm, which he had secured by honest industry and years of hard labor, in his mistaken zealous efforts to aid the "Grange movement" for cheaper freights, cheaper supplies and cheaper agricultural implements. He removed to Texas, but his good luck at farming failed him there. It is said that Mr. Denman is now a poor man, and in his old age again a pioneer,

looking for "a home in the west" in one of the territories. None of his family are now living in this county.

Dr. George F. Childs, with his wife and niece, lived for a short time in Johnson's shanty. While there his niece was taken with the measles and died after a few days' sickness. The remains were taken to La Crosse for burial.

About the middle of May Dr. Childs bought the east half of the claim made by Jabez McDermott. He paid McDermott eighty dollars for a quit-claim deed and possession of the eighty acres. This was the first claim sale on Wabasha prairie. Whether this deed was ever made a matter of record is now very uncertain, as at that time there was no county organization in Wabasha county, of which Winona county was a part. All matters of record were filed in Washington county, with which Wabasha was connected for all judicial purposes. Possession of land was then more important than title-deeds. The land still belonged to government and no surveys had been made.

The machine-shops and surrounding buildings of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company, the Winona wagon-works and the Winona plow-works are on what was once the McDermott claim. This locality was a favorite camping-place of Wabasha's band. When Dr. Childs took possession there were about half-a-dozen of their large bark cabins, or tepees, yet standing, but in a somewhat dilapidated condition, the settlers having taken material from them for use in other localities. In the vicinity of the machine-shops was an old Indian burying-place. The graves were scattered over that locality; very many were exposed and destroyed in the excavations made. Relics of the past—stone hatchets, flint arrowheads and pipes of red pipestone—were found. Sometimes fragments of bones or a tolerably well preserved skeleton would be unearthed and used to help form a railroad embankment in some other locality.

Indian graves have been found in several places on Wabasha prairie and in the mouths of the valleys. Quite a number were exposed by the caving of the river bank on the lower part of the prairie. Two modern Indian graves were on Johnson's claim when the whites first took possession of the prairie. They were left undisturbed for several years. The covering of sticks which were placed over them by the natives marked their location until the ground was plowed by Johnson in the spring of 1855. These graves were on lot 2, block 17. When it was improved and buildings were erected,

the bones buried there were thrown out in excavating a cellar and taken possession of by Dr. Franklin Staples. These bones were the remains of young persons and were very much decayed. It has been stated that some of Wabasha's children were buried in these graves, but there is no evidence confirming this statement. Wabasha's special home was in the mouth of Burns valley.

The Indian village located on the McDermott claim, a part of which was purchased by Dr. Childs, was said to be the grand gathering-place of the Mdaywakantonwan division of Sioux. It was in this vicinity that Wabasha's bands met for their amusements, sports and games, as well as more serious and important affairs. From this village the Indian trails diverged as from a common center, some leading to the valleys, others up and down the bank of the river. The wild grass, common on every other part of the prairie, had almost entirely disappeared around this village or summer resort, and had been replaced by a fine turf of blue-grass found in no other place except along the bank of the river on the lower part of the prairie, where Mrs. Keyes now lives.

Mr. George W. Clark says "That on McDermott's claim there was a large flat stone, the center of a large circle of smooth, level ground, with well defined boundaries, plainly to be seen in 1851. This stone was taken away by some of the early settlers."

Dr. Childs lived during the summer of 1852 in the little cabin with a bark roof which McDermott occupied as his claim shanty. He built a comfortable cottage near by it, in which he lived for several years. The logs and poles of the Sioux tepees were used in the construction of sheds and as posts for his fences. The bark covering of the huts was carefully gathered and used as firewood for his kitchen stove.

It was the custom of Dr. Childs to date all of his correspondence and business papers from his residence on this claim, to which he gave the name of "Ozelle cottage." This name was derived from the one given by the old French voyageurs to Wabasha prairie. Ozelle was but the French pronunciation of Aix Aile anglicized by Dr. Childs in writing.

When Dr. Childs left New York he supposed that he would find the Indians occupying this part of the territory, and brought along an assortment of goods for the purpose of bartering with them, but found that the Sioux had forsaken their homes in this locality. He

after a time traded his Indian goods with the Winnebagoes for dressed deerskins and got rid of his goods without loss.

Dr. Childs was a botanic physician, but never practiced his profession in this vicinity, or only to a very limited extent. He engaged in mercantile business for a year or two after he sold his land. He moved to Minneiska, Wabasha county, where he lived for awhile. Dr. G. F. Childs is now a resident of the State of Maryland, where he has charge of a benevolent institution, a home for aged people.

Among the passengers who landed at Johnson's landing from the steamer Caleb Cope on May 12, 1852, were Abner S. Goddard, wife and three children, from La Crosse. They arrived at about four o'clock on a dark and rainy morning, and went directly from the landing to the shanty on the Stevens claim, in accordance with a previous arrangement made with Silas Stevens. On reaching the shanty they were surprised to find the table, benches and other furniture of the cabin, which they supposed to be occupied, irregularly piled outside. When the inmates were aroused they discovered that the furniture had been removed to afford sleeping quarters for the occupants. William H. Stevens and a young man living with him held one corner, while the family of Mr. Denman, seven in number, were in possession of the remainder of the little 10×12 shanty, not occupied by the cook-stove. To accommodate the newcomers, the future occupants of the cabin, Mr. Denman provided for his family by making a shelter for them with the lumber he had laid up loosely to dry for use in the house he was then building. While living in this manner the loose boards were blown from over their heads during a severe thunderstorm one night when they were all in bed. They were compelled to seek shelter in Johnson's shanty, but again occupied their lumber piles in the morning and continued to do so until their house was finished.

During the previous winter Mr. Goddard had been living in La Crosse. He there taught the village school—the first school ever taught in La Crosse, the first school ever taught on the Mississippi river between Prairie du Chien and St. Paul, if the Indian mission schools at Red Wing and Kaposia are excepted. His schoolroom was in the court-house, which was built during the fall and fore part of the same winter. To add to their income and to accommodate some personal friends, Mrs. Goddard opened a boarding-house. "Aunt Catharine's" table was then, as it is now, always full, without soliciting patronage. Silas Stevens became a boarder and made



it his home with them while in La Crosse. After the attempt of Mr. Gere to jump the Stevens claim Mr. Stevens offered to furnish Mr. Goddard a shanty of sufficient capacity to keep a boarding-house on Wabasha prairie if he would go up and live on his claim, and also promised him an acre of the claim on which to build a house if he would continue to reside there. Others, then living in La Crosse, who had made claims, urged him to accept Mr. Stevens' proposition. As Mr. Goddard had been up to the prairie with a party of claim-hunters early in the spring, and had been solicited by the settlers in that locality to come up, he was the more readily induced to change his residence.

Immigrants were landed from every boat, and the little shanty was crowded with hungry guests as soon as their arrival was known. Meals were provided for all that came, but they were required to look out for their own lodging-places. The beds of their guests were sometimes the soft sands of the prairie, the bed clothing their ordinary wearing apparel with the addition of a blanket.

Three or four days after the arrival of Mr. Goddard, another shanty was put up by Mr. Stevens to meet the increasing business and the demand for better accommodations. This shanty was a one-story building about 16×32. To increase its capacity an awning of canvas was stretched from one side, which served as a shelter for the cooking department. The two rooms were subdivided by canvas partitions. It was customary, however, for guests who lodged there to blow out the candle and go to bed in the dark. This was a rule of the house.

This shanty stood about where the "Davenport house" now stands, not far from the corner of Third and Kansas streets. The original shanty on the Stevens claim was torn down, and the material used in the construction of this second one.

"Goddard's" was the favorite stopping-place—the most popular and commodious "hotel" on Wabasha prairie. This shanty was the "home" of many of the early settlers of this county who came that season. It was here they gathered for social enjoyment, to get the latest news, to discuss the matters of claims and current events. It was the place of gathering for all public meetings, and the headquarters of the Wabasha Protection Club, of which Mr. Goddard was elected secretary. A select school was opened here by Miss Angelia Gere, a young daughter of H. C. Gere. This was the first school attempted on the prairie. It was kept in opera-

tion but a short time. Here the first stated religious meetings were held, with regular preaching on the Sabbath day. This history would be incomplete without some special notice of Mr. Goddard and his family, so intimately were the early settlers connected with this "settlers' home."

The summer of 1852 was known in the west as the sickly season. The extreme high water of the early spring was followed by another extreme of low water, with remarkably dry and hot weather. This occasioned a general epidemic of severe forms of malarial diseases, which were unusually fatal. These diseases prevailed extensively along the river. Wabasha prairie and the colony at Minnesota City were seriously affected by it. The settlement of this county was retarded through the loss of many of the settlers by death, and the removal of very many others to escape the threatened dangers of sickness in a locality where there was so limited accommodations, even for the healthy.

The settlers considered themselves fortunate, indeed, if in their attack of sickness they could get in at Goddard's. The accommodation was prized, for there they felt sure of kind attention and watchful nursing. There were no regular medical practitioners in the county who followed their profession—none nearer than La Crosse, and domestic management was an important consideration with the sufferers.

The following extract from a letter to "Aunt Catharine" (Mrs. Goddard), written a score of years afterward, will illustrate somewhat the general sentiments of the early settlers in connection with the occurrences of that year: "I cannot forget the many deeds of kindness and motherly care my brothers and myself received at your hands when your house was a hospital and you the ministering angel. With nine sick persons, including your husband; with but two rooms in which to lodge and make comfortable your sick household, how admirably and patiently all was managed."

In the latter part of this season Mr. Goddard and his two youngest children were prostrated with the prevailing diseases and died. Mr. Goddard's death occurred September 11. The loss of a citizen of such promising usefulness in the new settlement was a calamity seriously felt. He was a man of the strictest integrity and of correct moral principles.

In his native state, Pennsylvania, Mr. Goddard was honored with the office of justice of the peace, and held that position for

many years. He there acquired the title of "Squire Goddard," by which name he was generally known. He was appointed postmaster, and received his commission during his last sickness, but never qualified or attempted to serve in that capacity.

Mrs. Goddard, now known as Mrs. Catharine Smith, is yet a resident of Wabasha prairie. She is the oldest female resident of the city of Winona. Indirectly through her some of the best citizens of Winona became residents of this county. She is a sister of the Lairds'. Although the mother of many children, she has but one living, a son, Orrin F. Smith.

Aunt Catharine is a woman whose social nature, kind heart and real worth have secured to her hosts of sincere friends. Her Easter parties, birthday gatherings and social reunions of old settlers are annual enjoyments to herself as well as to her numerous relatives and friends. Mrs. Goddard was connected with many incidents of pioneer life which might be mentioned, some of which will be noticed.

Prominent among the settlers who located on Wabasha prairie this season was Dr. John L. Balcombe. About April 1 he came up the river on the Nominee and stopped at La Crosse. Being a gentleman of much more than usual general intelligence, with fine social qualifications, and also an invalid, he readily formed acquaintances and found friends among the best citizens of that place. Wabasha prairie was then attracting considerable attention from the residents of La Crosse, and not long after his arrival he was induced to join a party who proposed to explore the late Sioux purchase for farming lands. Their prospecting excursions only extended to the valleys along the river, where some claims were selected. It being too early in the season to attempt any very extended trip without a more suitable outfit than could be procured, they returned to La Crosse.

In the forepart of May Dr. Balcombe again visited Wabasha prairie. He brought with him a horse, or pony, and camp supplies. He here secured the services of Ed. Hamilton, whose robust strength and experience as a cook made him a valuable acquisition in the exploring excursion he proposed to make. After transporting their outfit across the slough they started for the back country, Hamilton leading the way on the trail with a heavy pack of supplies, the doctor following on horseback with the balance of their outfit, which included a sack of corn and a bundle of hay.

Following the trail to Minnesota City they went up the south valley and out on Sweet's prairie on a trail marked by the settlers of the colony. They spent three or four days in exploring the country along the branches of the White Water and Root river as far as the western part of this county. In the vicinity of what is now the town of Saratoga they saw a large herd of elk, the last that have been seen in this vicinity.

They returned through the Rolling Stone and arrived at Johnson's landing on the evening of May 12, and went directly to the shanty of Mr. Goddard, where the doctor was provided for as a guest with such accommodations as the place afforded, although Mrs. Goddard had hardly taken possession of the premises. The next day he returned to La Crosse.

About the last of May another exploring party was organized in La Crosse by Dr. Balcombe, Rev. J. C. Sherwin, Rev. William H. Card, and other prominent citizens. Provided with horses and necessary supplies for camping out, they took passage to Wabasha prairie. The services of Ed. Hamilton were again secured. As the grass had by this time become sufficient for the support of their horses, the trip was only limited by their inclinations or the extent of their camp supplies.

This party went out through Gilmore valley. Keeping on the divide between the Root river and the White Water and Zombro rivers, they explored the country as far west as the head-waters of the Cedar river. On their return they camped on the head-waters of the White Water, spending the Sabbath in the vicinity of the present village of St. Charles. Religious exercises were observed and Elder Sherwin delivered a sermon to his companions. This was the first religious meeting held in the country back from the river.

While on this excursion Dr. Balcombe made discovery of many choice locations. His habits of close observation, with a retentive memory, gave him a decided advantage over other explorers, which were afterward of pecuniary value. He could long afterward point out the choicest locations to the early settlers seeking farming lands. While on this trip he first discovered and located the present site of High Forest. It was not until a year or two afterward that he found sale for his rights of discovery.

This exploring excursion satisfied Dr. Balcombe that the resources of this part of the Sioux purchase, when developed, would amply



support a large commercial town on the river and that the outlet must be in this vicinity. He decided to locate on Wabasha prairie, and accepted Johnson's offer of an acre of ground on the same terms offered others. The acre selected was west of and adjoining that chosen by John Evans. He built a shanty on Main street, between Front and Second streets, near the alley. It was  $12 \times 16$ , one story, of little better style than common claim shanties. It had a gable roof instead of the ordinary shed roof. This was at first of boards, but was afterward covered with shingles.

Dr. Balcombe also bought an undivided one-third of the Hamilton claim, No. 5. Mark Howard, a gentleman residing in Hartford, Conn., purchased another third, Edwin Hamilton retaining one-third. Walter Brown, of La Crosse, was appointed agent for Mr. Howard. This property is now known as Huff's addition to the original town plot of Winona. The claim was valued at \$200. The shares were \$66.66 each. Mr. Hamilton then supposed he had made a good sale.

About June 1, Dr. Balcombe brought his wife from Illinois, where she was on a visit with her son. Stopping at La Crosse for awhile, she came to Wabasha prairie on June 13. They boarded at Goddard's until they commenced housekeeping in their own shanty in July. About July 1 he built a shanty on the Hamilton claim, which he leased to O. S. Holbrook, of which mention was made in earlier pages.

Early in July Dr. Balcombe went down the river and brought up some household furniture and supplies. He also brought back with him a span of horses and a colt, double and single harnesses, a lumber wagon and a buggy. This was the first buggy ever brought into the county and the only one for nearly a year afterward.

After spending the summer and fall in Minnesota, Dr. Balcombe sold his interest in the Hamilton claim, with his horses and wagons, to Edwin Hamilton for \$661, and with his wife went down the river on the last boat in the fall. He spent the winter with his only child, a son, St. A. D. Balcombe, then a druggist doing business in Elgin, Illinois. He returned the following spring. Further attention will be given him in the occurrences of that year.

## CHAPTER XXV.

### INCIDENTS OF THE EARLY TIMES.

AMONG the settlers who came into this county in the spring of 1852 were Wayne Clark and Scott Clark, brothers of George W. Clark. Wayne arrived about the first of May, Scott a little later in the season. Scott Clark was an invalid, and came on from the State of New York with the hope that the climate of Minnesota would prove beneficial to his health. He made a claim in the mouth of Gilmore valley. It included the Indian cultivation and extended onto the table where the residence of C. C. Beck now stands. His claim shanty, a small log house, stood on the same plateau but near the point next to the creek. He held this claim until his death, which occurred in June, 1854. He was buried on the grounds of what is now Woodlawn cemetery. His grave was the first in that locality. He was, however, buried there several years before the spot was selected as a public cemetery.

Wayne Clark did not come to Minnesota for the express purpose of making it a home as an actual settler. His principal object was speculation. He brought with him quite a number of land warrants, which he expected he would be able to use in securing lands on the "Sioux purchase" in the territory, but the lands had not been surveyed and he found that land warrants were not available property here. To preserve them, he carefully laid them away in his trunk, in which he also secreted other valuables. He brought with him from Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, the trunk and "good clothes" of his brother, left there the year before, when George abandoned all superfluities of that kind.

These trunks were stored in Nash's shanty on claim No. 2, which they then occupied as their headquarters. Nash and Gilmore were away, rafting logs for Farrell that had been cut on the islands opposite during the winter. Although living in this shanty on the prairie, they were engaged in making improvements on the claim of George Clark across the slough, putting in a crop of potatoes, corn, making garden and building a cabin.

One day, while engaged in putting the cabin in a habitable

condition, they were alarmed by a messenger, William H. Stevens, crossing over in haste to inform them that the Sioux threatened to burn the shanty on the Nash claim, and that they had better come over and take care of their traps or their property would be burned up in it.

Startled by this report, they hastened to secure their valuables from threatened destruction. On arriving at the landing they found all of the settlers gathered at Goddard's shanty, with about half a dozen Indians as the center of attraction. They here learned that the cause of the alarm was from the neglect of Nash to pay the Indian tax which had been levied on the shanty by the Sioux, or to provide for its payment as he had promised the Indians. On this visit the Indians collected a barrel of flour from Gere, and another from Dr. Childs. There were but six inhabited claim shanties on Wabasha prairie at this time. All had paid their tax except Nash. Wabasha's "infernal" revenue collectors were somewhat irritated at not being able to secure the delinquent tax on the shanty of claim No. 2. The leader and spokesman of the party expressed his dissatisfaction forcibly and emphatic in the Dakota language. The settlers standing around readily comprehended what he meant, although they could not understand but a single word of all that he said. By signs used in his demonstrations he intimated that they had promised to give them the flour when the Nominee came up in the spring, but had failed to do as agreed. Gesticulating with his hands, he pointed down the river, then moving them slowly up until he pointed up stream. This he performed several times, each time repeating, distinctly, "Nominee," pointing toward the shanty, shaking his fist and giving strong expressions of dissatisfaction. The interpretation as understood was that the Nominee had been up and down a number of times and Nash had not furnished the flour. Apparently becoming terribly excited in his manner, the Indian rushed to the cook-stove of Mrs. Goddard, which stood at the side of the building, and drawing out a blazing fire-brand, started toward the delinquent shanty as if he was going to set it on fire. This the settlers comprehended as only a threat that they would burn it if the flour or its equivalent was not forthcoming. He was easily pacified and induced to drop the incendiary torch when assured he should have the flour. Johnson furnished it from his own supplies and settled the matter at once.

This was the only "Indian scare" ever attempted by the Sioux

with the early settlers in this county. The alarm was soon over and an amicable shake all around indicated a satisfactory adjustment of difficulties and a truce to all hostile demonstrations.

In transporting the flour collected by the Indians, the barrels were opened with their hatchets and the flour transferred to sacks. The barrels were then destroyed.

The only claim shanties on Wabasha prairie for which this tax was paid to the Sioux were on claims Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4, and on the claim of Dr. Childs and for Henry C. Gere's shanty. John Burns paid them for his privileges in the mouth of Burns valley. Four barrels of flour settled all Indian claims on the colony at Minnesota City. These were all that paid the Indian tax that season. Finding the settlers were becoming too numerous to be easily alarmed, the Indians abandoned their compulsory plan of begging and let them remain undisturbed.

Notwithstanding the amicable adjustment with the Sioux in relation to the shanty they were occupying on the prairie, the Clarks removed their deposits and transferred all of their effects across the slough, where they were under their personal care. They commenced housekeeping in their own shanty, George W., Wayne and Scott Clark living together.

Wayne Clark spent that season in Minnesota, exploring the country looking for chances to speculate, but went down the river on the last boat in the fall without making a claim or investing his surplus funds in a country where securities (claims) were such uncertain property.

With the crowd of passengers brought up the river by the Nominnee on the 19th of May, who landed on Wabasha prairie, were quite a number of immigrants for the colony. For convenience in discharging freight and live stock, Captain Smith landed them at the lower landing, his favorite claim and special preference for a town site.

Among the members of the association who stopped here were Hiram Campbell, wife and three children, Mrs. Thorp (wife of Robert Thorp) and three sons, H. B. Waterman, wife and son, Asa Waterman, Rufus Waterman, Andrew Petee, D. Q. Burley, H. Shipley and son, Mr. Hunt and others.

This party had quite a large herd of cattle—oxen, cows and young stock. The greater part of them belonged to Hiram Campbell. Mr. Waterman had two yoke of oxen and two cows, and Mr. Hunt



two yoke of oxen. As soon as the cattle were landed they scattered over the prairie in spite of the efforts of their owners to restrain them. The new-comers were not then aware that they were on an island, from which their cattle would not attempt to escape even if allowed to range over it. It was not until late in the day that all of the frisky herd were collected at the lower end of the prairie. The tents were pitched and the party remained at the landing until the next morning, when the wagons were loaded, the cattle collected, and all moved up to the upper end of the prairie, where they again camped near the landing-place of the Macedonian.

The following morning the cattle were again collected and after much trouble driven across the back slough at the crossing on the trail below where they camped. Mr. Campbell divested himself of all clothing and followed them over alone to aid his young stock if occasion required. The wagons, with the men, women and children, were transferred across the slough to the upper prairie by the Macedonian, landing about where the present road is laid. Several trips were made to carry them all over. From here they made their way along down the slough and then moved on up to the table-land along the bluffs above the mouth of Gilmore valley, where they camped for the night. The next day, May 23, they made their entry into the settlement and mingled with the crowds there collected. Some of this party are yet residents of that vicinity.

On account of the difficulties in getting to Rolling Stone from Wabasha prairie, and because of the strong feeling of jealousy and rivalry that began to be exhibited between the two localities, Mr. Haddock urgently requested the members of the association, by messages and letters sent to those on their way up, not to land on Wabasha prairie. If the boats could not be induced to land them at Rolling Stone by going up Straight Slough, they were advised to continue on up the river and land on the Minnesota side below the mouth of the White Water. From there he supposed it would be practicable to reach the colony by land, or they could be brought down by water on the Macedonian.

But one small party attempted to reach the colony over this route. They came up the river on the Dr. Franklin. At Johnson's landing, where the boat stopped, they were advised by O. M. Lord, who chanced to see them, that they had better land there with the other passengers, and assured them that it would be more difficult to get to Rolling Stone from above than from the prairie.

Mr. Wright, who had previously visited the colony, and who now assumed the leadership, had such unlimited confidence in the judgment and advice of Mr. Haddock in the matter, that he decided to follow the instructions of the president of the association. They continued on and landed on the morning of May 23 about three miles below the mouth of the White Water and about a mile below Hall's landing, afterward known as Mt. Vernon.

The members of this party were James Wright, wife and six children, John Nicklin, wife and two children, and S. M. Burns, wife and three children.

Mr. Wright was one of the directors of the association and one of its earliest members. He had been a resident of the city of New York, where he followed the occupation of a wood-turner. Mr. Nicklin was from the same place, where he was a lithographer. Mr. Burns was from eastern Pennsylvania, where he had been a hotel-keeper, or keeper of a restaurant. It was said that Mr. Burns brought more money with him than any other member of the colony.

With their freight they had a large supply of provisions and quite an amount of household goods. Mr. Burns brought with him a very fine pair of horses, a wagon and a general assortment of farming tools. The experiences of this party during their stay here are given as related by Mr. Wright to illustrate some of the incidents of pioneer life in the early settlement of this county.

When the horses of Mr. Burns were landed from the steamboat, they were not securely fastened by the deck-hands who had them in charge. Their halters were loosely tied to the brush that grew along the bank, and by their restlessness they soon released themselves. Attracted by the fresh grass, they quietly enjoyed their liberty by grazing in the vicinity. Thinking it safe, Mr. Burns indulged them while he was putting his wagon together, which had been taken apart for convenience in transportation.

After completing his task Mr. Burns attempted to secure his team, but the horses playfully eluded his grasp of their halters and kept just beyond his reach. Startled by some sudden movement, they sprang off as if for a race, but again halted to feed until he came near, when they again left him. At length, turning up a valley, they disappeared. He would occasionally get a glimpse of them on the sides of the ravine and then lost sight of them entirely. He followed their trail to the ridge on the top of the bluffs, where he lost

all trace and returned to the river at evening, tired and hungry, without his horses.

During the day, Mr. Wright and Mr. Nicklin arranged their goods in the form of a hollow square, and with poles and blankets formed a temporary covering over it. This provided a common shelter for the whole party. A cook-stove was adjusted for business near by, and as they had a variety of provisions and good cooks, their camp was comfortably established and well provided for, except protection from heavy rains. Plenty of dry grass and an abundance of blankets and quilts furnished them beds of which they had but little reason to complain. They had the material for tents in their boxes, but they did not consider it worth while to unpack them for the short time they proposed to stay there.

The following morning Mr. Burns resumed his search for the truant animals. As the flatboat was expected from Rolling Stone, Mr. Wright and Mr. Nicklin remained in camp. When at Wabasha prairie they had sent word to Mr. Haddock, notifying him of their arrival and asking to have the boat sent up for them.

In the afternoon Mr. Robertson and Mr. Woodcock came up from the colony with the report that an attempt had been made to bring up the Macedonian, but it was found to be almost impossible to manage it and the effort had been abandoned; that Capt. Jackson proposed to take them down in his small boat and would come up in the morning to begin the undertaking. They also reported that there was no roadway along the bluffs that was passable for wagons, although there was a well-worn Indian trail.

Mr. Burns returned without his horses. He was unable to trace them, and for awhile was himself lost and gave up his search. He was tired out and discouraged with his fruitless efforts to find his stray property. He had paid a high price for his horses in Chicago, and, being fearful that he would lose them without a chance for their recovery, he offered a reward of fifty dollars for them delivered in camp or at Minnesota City.

Stimulated by this liberal offer Robertson and Woodcock volunteered to hunt for the estrays. After a late but hearty dinner they took the trail at about four o'clock in the afternoon and found them before dark in the head of the north Rolling Stone valley and rode them to Minnesota City the same evening. The horses were returned to Mr. Burns uninjured by their frolic. He promptly paid over the reward.

Captain Jackson made the attempt to transfer this party with his small boat, and commenced with the family and freight of Mr. Nicklin. To accomplish this required several trips. He was successful except with the last, which was a valuable load in bulky boxes. The boat was capsized and the cargo a total loss—"no insurance." Some relics of the contents of the boxes were found the following winter in the brush on an island, but nothing of value recovered. This accident suspended that line of transportation.

Robertson and Woodcock, with an eye to speculation, offered to deliver the goods of Mr. Wright and Mr. Burns at Rolling Stone for fifteen dollars. A bargain was at once closed, with them and they proceeded to construct a raft from some dead oak-trees standing on the bank of the river. After the logs were secured together and loaded with a barrel of pork, a barrel of beef, a barrel of vinegar and a cask of hams, but little of the raft was above water. Lashing the freight to the logs they added a cook-stove, shoved off into the current and safely landed it at "Lord's lumber yard" without accident and without delay.

After the raft had left the shore, Burns decided that he would not move down to the settlement. He had made an arrangement with the Halls for an interest in their town site and concluded to remain on the river. He immediately commenced to build himself a log house, and moved his family and goods up to the landing.

On Saturday Mr. Hunt and Mr. Shipley came up along the bluffs with two yoke of oxen and a wagon for the purpose of moving them down. This was the first wagon that ever passed between the two places. They met with no serious obstruction for the passage of an empty wagon, although the way was rough and uneven.

When they left Rolling Stone Mr. Shipley was apparently in his usual health. He had that morning parted with his son, a young man about sixteen years old, and sent him down to Galena to bring up his family, which he had left there two weeks before. While on his way up along the bluffs he began to complain of not feeling well, and soon became too sick to even follow on the trail. Mr. Hunt made him as comfortable as he could on a bed of grass in the wagon, and brought him through to Wright's camp. Here everything was done for his relief that they were able to do, but without avail. He died a few hours after his arrival, at about twelve o'clock at night. His disease was supposed to be cholera.

The remains of Mr. Shipley were buried the next day at about



12 o'clock, Sunday, May 30, 1852. The grave was on the bank of the river, near where he died. His coffin was a few pieces of slabs taken from the drift-wood of the river and arranged around the body, while lying in the grave. After the grave was filled, a piece of a slab was placed at the head and his name, "H. Shipley," marked on it. The last resting-place of this early pioneer is now unknown. The personal effects of Mr. Shipley were taken in charge by Mr. Wright and sent to his wife. The oxen and wagon belonged to Mr. Hunt. Mr. Shipley had no interest in them.

Mr. Wright now became anxious to leave that locality, and as soon as the rude burial was completed he loaded the wagon with some of his household goods and decided to attempt to go through by land, but the attempt proved a failure at the start. The wagon was upset within a few rods of where it was loaded, the boxes were smashed and their contents scattered as they tumbled and rolled promiscuously down the bank, almost into the river. A large looking-glass rolled on the edges of its frame for several rods and lodged in an upright position against a tree, without injury. The same mirror is yet in use by Mrs. Wright in Minnesota City.

At about the time the loaded wagon upset a steamboat appeared in sight, coming down. Mr. Wright abandoned his damaged property and devoted all his energies to attract the attention of the pilot. He hoisted signals of distress and hailed the boat most vociferously, and was actively seconded in his efforts by his family, one using a tin horn and another beating an accompaniment on a tin pan. Alarmed by these proceedings, the captain of the boat cautiously ran over toward the Minnesota shore, expecting to learn that the Sioux had risen against the settlers. He was, however, soon relieved of any anxiety on that score, and discovered as he drew near that they were some of the passengers he had landed there on his way up—that their noisy demonstrations were made because they were anxious to leave that locality and go down to Johnson's landing. He good-naturedly consented to take them on board. As the boat swung round to the shore the captain hailed Wright and inquired, "Where's your freight?" Pointing to the wreck of the wagon-load, Wright replied, "There is some of it, as soon as we can get it together." Observing the condition of affairs, the captain called to the men forward as the gang-plank was launched out, "Get ashore there, some of you, and bring them duds aboard in bulk."

To Mrs. Wright's extreme surprise, and before she could rally

from her helpless astonishment, her clean household stuff, bedding and clothing of every description, was carried off in the arms of the dirty roustabouts, and before she could offer even a feeble remonstrance they were piled promiscuously on the greasy, dirty deck.

All of Mr. Wright's goods were taken aboard except four barrels of flour which he had brought up for the association, designed to be used in payment of the Indian tax on the shanties in the colony. The flour was taken down by Mr. Hunt in his wagon, the first freight carried through by a wagon over that trail.

When Mr. Wright reached Johnson's landing he there found Willie Shipley, waiting for the down boat. He informed the astonished boy that his father, from whom he had parted not two days before, looking healthy and strong, was dead and in his lonely grave on the bank of the river. Mr. Wright gave him the property found with his father—his watch, a pocket-book with papers and a small amount of money—to be carried to his mother.

His family were not left without means of support. Mr. Shipley had left a considerable sum of money on deposit in Galena, under the control of his wife. The family returned to their former home. Their experience in the west was a sorrowful one.

At Johnson's landing Mr. Wright, with his family, was permitted by Mr. Denman to pass the night in the unfinished house he was then building. They reached Minnesota City the next day, June 1, and went directly to the "gopher" Mr. Wright had helped to build nearly three weeks before. It was near here that his provisions and cook-stove had been stored when landed from the raft. This gopher-house was their first home in the colony. Mr. Wright has retained possession of and lived continuously with his family on the same land and in the same locality ever since that period, about thirty-one years. They occupied the "gopher" and a tent until he could procure lumber and build a more comfortable place to move into. Soon after their arrival the whole family were prostrated with sickness in some form. Two of the children died with measles, then prevailing.

Like most of the members of the association from New York city, Mr. Wright's previous experience had but poorly fitted him to meet the demands of pioneer life. Many things were learned from practical experience. Incidents that may now be pleasantly related, and are amusing to listen to, which occurred in their acquisition of a western education, were once really serious matters with them.

The provisions brought down on the raft were jointly owned by Mr. Wright and Mr. Burns. The morning after his arrival Mr. Wright went out to inspect the condition of his supplies, and discovered that his cask of hams had been broken open and the contents carried off. The fact becoming known, the indignant colonists proceeded to investigate the affair. A careful examination of the matter was commenced, but the mystery of the transaction was soon revealed without a shadow of suspicion resting on any member of the association. The cattle of the settlers had been corraled in the bend of the stream near by to prevent their wandering off to parts unknown or trespassing in the settlement. In their eagerness to get salt, the cask had been broken open and the hams eaten by the ravenous bovine monsters. All of the cattle in the settlement were under suspicion as being implicated in the transaction, but the herd of Hiram Campbell were charged with being the principal and leading offenders. The fragments of partly eaten hams were found scattered over the ground in the vicinity of the empty cask.

To prevent any further loss to Mr. Burns, it was proposed by Mr. Wright that an equitable division of the pork and beef be made. In the absence of Mr. Burns, friends of both parties were selected to make the division. The meat in each barrel was taken out and accurately weighed. One half of each was then put into one of the barrels for Mr. Burns and the other half into the other barrel and turned over to Mr. Wright as his individual property. This was apparently a just dissolution of partnership, but Mr. Wright soon discovered that the mixing of the two kinds of meat did not improve the quality. It was soon understood that Mr. Wright and Mr. Burns had a surplus of meat, and some less fastidious persons purchased it at less than cost.

Although transportation had proved to be barely possible from Hall's landing to Rolling Stone without considerable expense in opening a wagon trail, there was to Mr. Burns more than a glimmer of a prospective landing-place for the colony, and he located himself where he could have the benefit of the river trade in the business in which he proposed to engage. Having money to invest, he built a large hotel. His bar was the main source of profit. He paid no license, for the law prohibited the sale of intoxicating drinks. His hotel became a favorite resort for the rivermen and traveling public, and was not entirely shunned by the settlers. The Indians resorted to Burns' for trade. During the years of 1852-3-4 there was

more liquor sold by Mr. Burns than in all other parts of southern Minnesota. He brought on quite a stock of general merchandise and opened a store. A postoffice was established and S. M. Burns was postmaster. He furnished employment for a large number of men cutting steamboat wood on government lands, on which large profits were made.

After a heavy expense trying to build up a business point at this place, Mr. Burns was forced to abandon the attempt, and the village of Mt. Vernon ceased to exist. The scheme to make it the landing-place for the colony did not prove practicable, although a wagon road was opened between the two places.

The town of Mt. Vernon, in the northwest part of Winona county, took its name from the village of that name at what was once known as Hall's landing, on the Mississippi. Not a trace of any of the improvements made by Mr. Burns are now to be seen. The village site is almost unknown.

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## CHAPTER XXVI.

### THE ASSOCIATION AT ROLLING STONE.

THE Western Farm and Village Association, as organized in the city of New York in 1851, was transferred to Rolling Stone in 1852 under the same officers and with the same laws governing its members. The mode of doing business adopted and practiced in the east was continued in the west.

The first regular meeting of the association held in the colony at Rolling Stone was on May 6. The officers present were Wm. Haddock, president; Thos. K. Allen, recording secretary; and a majority of the board of directors, Augustus A. Gilbert, James Wright, Charles Bannon, John Hughs and D. Robertson.

At this meeting fifty-two responded to their names when the roll of members was called. Some of these were young unmarried men, but a majority of the members present were men with families.

At a general meeting of the colonists on Sunday, May 9, the name of Minnesota City was given to the village of the colony. The name was unanimously adopted by a *viva-voce vote*. Prior to this



the locality was only known as Rolling Stone, and afterward it was the most familiar name to the early settlers.

At this same meeting, May 9, a Congregational minister from La Crosse, by the name of Reynolds, preached the first sermon ever delivered in Minnesota City. Elder Reynolds was a missionary sent out by the Home Mission Board of the denomination to which he belonged.

Business meetings of the association were called to consider matters relating to the common interests. At one of these meetings, about the first, Robert Pike, Jr., was elected surveyor for the colony, to establish the lines of claims designated as farms, which were to be assigned to the choice of the members of the association according to numbers drawn for that purpose. E. B. Drew and C. R. Coryell were Pike's assistants in these surveys, which were made under the general supervision of the president, Mr. Haddock.

At a meeting held on May 19 the question of making application for the establishment of a postoffice was considered and a choice for postmaster made by ballot. Robert Pike, Jr., received a majority of votes. A petition in proper form was drawn up and signed, soliciting the establishment of a postoffice at Minnesota City and recommending Robert Pike, Jr., as a proper appointment for postmaster. This petition was forwarded to the Postoffice department at Washington. In due time Mr. Pike received his commission and the office was established, but with the proviso and on condition that the mails should be transported to and from the nearest postoffice on the river free of charge to the Postoffice department. The nearest postoffice was then at La Crosse. The mail was dependent on chance opportunities or private enterprise. Even such postal facilities were considered of advantage to the settlement.

The family of Mr. Pike, consisting of his wife and two children and two of his sisters (afterward Mrs. H. Jones and Mrs. D. Kennedy), came on about the last of June. While on their passage up the river the postoffice keys were handed to Mrs. Pike at La Crosse by Brooks and Hancock, two members of the association there on a visit, to be delivered to her husband on her arrival at Minnesota City. This was the first knowledge Mrs. Pike had of the matter.

On May 20 a census of the colony was taken, when it was ascertained that there were ninety male members of the association on the grounds and about 400 women and children.

The first death in the colony was on May 25, that of David

Densmore, a man about sixty years of age. He was from the State of Maine. He had no family with him. Mr. Densmore was buried in the grounds selected for a cemetery, a little above the forks of the Rolling Stone creek, near Minnesota City.

The first bridge built in the county was across the Rolling Stone, near where James Wright now lives in Minnesota City. Long logs, used as stringers, were laid over the stream from one bank to the other. Across these stringers logs were laid instead of plank. The colonists all united in this public improvement.

The next morning after this bridge was completed the settlers found that their engineering was not practicable in this structure. The long stringers of green timber, without central support, had given way and broken down from weight of the green logs by which they were covered. The middle of the bridge was resting in the center of the stream, the logs retained in their position across the stringers. Although not available as a wagon bridge, it was used during the season as a crossing-place by persons on foot.

The first bridge that was of any practicable use was one built by the colonists across the Rolling Stone just below the forks of that stream, above Minnesota City. The location is now covered by the mill-pond. This was called the "herd bridge" by the settlers. The cattle belonging in the colony were placed under the charge of a herdsman, who had the general management of them during the grazing season. Robert Pike, Jr., was the first appointed and acted in that capacity for that season. A fence was built running from the bluff on the south side to the stream, and the cattle were allowed to range above it in the south valley. The "herd bridge" was designed and built, under the direction of Mr. Pike, to serve as a crossing-place for the stock under his charge. It was, however, used as a wagon bridge for two or three years after a road was opened up through the south valley.

During that season the wagon trail leading to Wabasha prairie was on the south side of the stream, next to the bluffs, and the only practical fording-place of the stream was where Elsworth's mill now stands. Late in the fall, or early in winter, the settlers opened a road along down the table, on the north side of the stream, about where it now is, and built a bridge near the angle where the creek leaves the bluff and flows north, about a mile below the present village of Minnesota City. This was the first public bridge in common use in the county. It was maintained for three or four years until

the present road between Minnesota and Winona was opened and another bridge was built about fifty rods below, in the same locality where the present bridge stands.

The first store for the sale of merchandise to the settlers in the colony was opened about June 1 of this season by a Mr. Robertson. He closed out his establishment and left the colony early in the fall.

The first school opened in the county was a select school, started in Minnesota City in the early part of this season. The first district school in the county was established here later in the season. The district was organized under the general law of the territory and comprised the whole colony. Miss Houk was the teacher. Schools have been uniformly maintained in that locality from that time to the present.

The first blacksmith-shop started in this county by the early settlers was in the colony at Minnesota City. James and John Prosser, father and son, opened a shop and commenced business early in the season. Josiah Keene also started a shop. The Prossers left the colony in the fall. O. M. Lord bought their shop, tools and stock, and also that of Keene, and carried on the business for a year or two afterward. This was the only blacksmith-shop in the county until the spring of 1854, when a shop was opened at Winona, previous to which the settlers on Wabasha prairie were dependent on Minnesota City, or they were compelled to go to La Crosse for their blacksmith work. Sometimes jobs of blacksmithing were ordered by the boats from Galena.

The first horseshoeing done in the county was by O. M. Lord. In the fall of 1852 he shod a pair of horses for Hon. Wm. H. Stevens, of the city of Winona. The shoes were brought up from La Crosse. In the spring of 1853 he shod fourteen horses for Wm. Ashley Jones, a government surveyor.

From 1849 to 1853 the county of Winona was a part of Wabasha county. By act of the First Territorial Legislature, October 27, 1849, "all that portion of said territory lying east of a line running due south from a point on the Mississippi river known as Medicine Bottles Village, at Pine Bend, to the Iowa line, was erected into a county to be known by the name of Wabashaw."

The extent of territory included in the boundaries of Wabasha county by that act was what is now a part of the county of Dakota and the present counties of Goodhue, Wabasha, Olmsted, Dodge, Mower, Fillmore, Houston and Winona.

Wabasha county was first created for the special purpose of affording certain political privileges to the settlers within its boundaries, nearly all of whom were half-breed Sioux, living on the "Half-breed Tract," who were recognized as bona fide citizens. The other parts of the county were then in possession of the Sioux.

It was made part of a council district, but was declared to be a representative district, entitled to elect one representative to the territorial legislature.

The first representative from Wabasha county was James Wells. He was also a member of the second and fourth territorial legislatures in 1851 and in 1853. In the third legislature, the session of 1852, Wabasha county was represented by Fordyce S. Richards, another trader, living at Reed's landing.

The fourth territorial legislature in 1853 (March 4) divided Wabasha county and created Fillmore county from the southern portion along the Mississippi, which included the present county of Winona. The same council and representative districts were, however, continued until 1855, when a new apportionment was made by the legislature.

At the election held in the fall of 1853, Hon. O. M. Lord, of Minnesota City, was elected, from Fillmore, representative of this district to the fifth territorial legislature, which held its session in 1854. At this session Winona county was created, February 23, 1854.

When Wabasha county was created in 1849 it was "declared to be organized only for the appointment of justices of the peace, constables and such other judicial and ministerial officers as might be specially provided for." It was attached to Washington county for judicial purposes and was entitled to any number of justices not exceeding six, and to the same number of constables, who were to receive their appointment from the governor and to hold their office for two years, unless sooner removed.

The first justice of the peace appointed by Gov. Ramsey in accordance with this act creating Wabasha county, was Thomas K. Allen, the recording secretary of the association at Minnesota City. Mr. Allen was compelled to go to the capital of the territory—to St. Paul, in order to qualify—to take the oath of office required. There was no one nearer who was empowered to administer it to him.

At a general meeting of the members of the association living in the colony at Minnesota City, held July 12, 1852, an election pre-



cinct was organized and the following officers elected by ballot: Thomas K. Allen, justice of the peace; Josiah Keen, constable; James Wright, assessor; and Augustus A. Gilbert, notary public.

These proceedings were without proper authority, and only designed to represent an expression of the wishes of the people in the colony. The governor was duly notified of this action of the settlers and the appointment of the officers selected formally recommended and solicited.

Gov. Ramsey confirmed the election by making the appointment accordingly. Mr. Allen took the oath of office on July 28, 1852. By vote of the association, O. M. Lord, John Iams and Hiram Campbell were elected road commissioners for the colony or precinct.

The first sermon delivered to the settlers in Rolling Stone was by the Rev. Mr. Reynolds, a missionary of the Congregational church. He kept up regular appointments and preached during the summer at Minnesota City and at Wabasha prairie. His audiences were representatives of all denominations, Presbyterians, Baptists, Methodists, etc. A general Sabbath-school was started in the early part of this season. The members of the association held to the religious faith or belief they had professed before joining the colony. If there was any change it was exhibited in a general feeling of toleration. The Protestants and Catholics shared with each other in their comforts and privations, and in their joys and sorrows, without question of religious opinions. All grades of liberalism, spiritualism and other "isms" had advocates.

The first church organized in this county was by the Baptist members of the association. This was the first Protestant church organization in southern Minnesota. The appropriate ceremonies were held on July 11, 1852. The pastor of this church was the Rev. T. R. Cressey, a missionary appointed by the American Baptist Home Missionary Society at a salary of \$600 per annum. He made Minnesota City his headquarters, but preached in other localities.

After remaining in this vicinity for two or three months, Mr. Cressey had a call to locate himself in charge of the Baptist church in St. Paul. As the failing condition of the colony in the latter part of the season offered less inducements to remain, he left this county and located himself in the capital of the territory.

Another Baptist preacher, Rev. Henderson Cressey, a brother of T. R. Cressey, preached to the settlers at Minnesota City and on

Wabasha prairie for about two years afterward, but did not reside in this vicinity. He held a claim for awhile on the upper prairie.

There was such a general immigration of preachers among the early settlers that about every settlement was represented by one or more of some denomination. It is now difficult to ascertain the names of many of those who for a time held claims in this county. The most of them apparently preferred the blouse of the settler to the garb of their profession.

The Rev. William Sweet occasionally preached, but made no regular appointments. The Rev. Mr. Henderson, a member of the association, living at Minnesota City, was, or had been, a Methodist preacher. It was said that he gave the settlers a most enthusiastic, patriotic sermon on Sunday, July 4, 1852. From many peculiarities of belief or opinions expressed in public, his influence among the Methodists, of which denomination there was quite a number, was not sufficient to induce them to acknowledge him as a leader or combine in a church organization. Mr. Henderson, with others holding different "isms," made an unsuccessful effort to create a society called "The Universal Church."

It is difficult to ascertain the exact date of the arrival of very many of the early settlers who, as members of the association, located in this county. The greatest number and largest bodies of them arrived in May, but they continued to come during June and until about the middle of July, after which but few if any of the immigrants in this part of the territory were members of that organization.

Among those who located in the colony in Rolling Stone whose arrival has not been specially mentioned were the following. The most of these came in May. The list might be largely extended by adding the names of those who remained so short a time that with propriety they should be classed as a part of the transient population of the colony. Prominent among the more permanent settlers were Wm. T. Luark, John Iams, S. D. Putnam, S. A. Houk, O. H. Houk, George Foster, Egbert Chapman, Harvey Stradling, P. D. Follett, Samuel Hancock, John Cook and *V. G. Wedon*. The last is but the nom de plume of Robert Pike, Jr.

The time set by the association for drawing numbers for the choice of farming lands was May 15. The drawing took place at that date, although the survey was not completed; neither was there a full representation of members present. The selections of claims

were afterward made as fast as the reports of the surveyor were received, which were almost daily. All of the available farming land in each of the valleys of the Rolling Stone were surveyed and assigned to the colonists. Some made choice of lands and made claims which they retained and still occupy as farms, but the most of the selections made by the numbers drawn were abandoned. The selections first made were not in all cases satisfactory, and exchanges were effected without disturbing the harmony of the settlement.

By special action of the association before they left New York, exemptions were given certain members who were unable to move in the spring, by which their rights and privileges were protected by proxy. These exemptions were, however, but temporary arrangements. The limit of this extension of time was fixed to expire on July 15, at which date a general meeting of the association was to be held for the purpose of determining which village lots and farming lands had been forfeited.

The following extract from the diary of Mr. E. B. Drew notes this general gathering: "Thursday, July 15, 1852. The Western Farm and Village Association all met at Mr. Lord's new house to transact important business pertaining to individual interests in city lots and farms. Some interesting times. The population is now over three hundred." "July 16. To-day O. M. Lord arrived with his family, bringing with him a horse-team and a cow."

Mr. Lord's new house, mentioned by Mr. Drew, was located on the same table, but about a hundred rods above where O. M. Lord now lives in Minnesota City. The "interesting times" was the scramble for forfeited village lots and farms. The horse-team brought by Mr. Lord was the first span of horses brought into the colony.

The village lots of the colony, which embraced over 1,000 acres, covered the land from below the farm now owned by Robert Duncan to the bluffs near the farm of D. Q. Burley and up the valley above the fork of the stream, including the Waterman farm. The bottom lands and a part of the Denman farm were plotted as suburban lots.

The most of the improvements on village lots were from where James Kennedy now lives to about half a mile above where Troost's mill stood. It was here that a large number of the settlers who wintered in the colony made their homes. Although all had claims, but few occupied them until the following spring.

Some members of the association made claims outside the jurisdiction assumed for the colony. In June Mr. D. Hollyer made a claim in what is now the town of Utica, which he abandoned in the fall when he left the territory. Dr. J. W. Bentley took possession and moved on it in the spring following. It was afterward known as "Bentley's." Dr. Bentley was not a member of the association, although he came to Minnesota City in the fall of 1852 and lived there during the winter with H. B. Waterman, a relative. While living at Minnesota City Mrs. Bentley increased the population of the colony by the addition of a daughter to her family. This was the first white child born in Rolling Stone. The first male child born in Minnesota City was the eldest son of Mrs. H. B. Waterman, January 5, 1854. This child was the first born in the colony whose parents were members of the association. George B. Waterman died in 1881.

S. E. Cotton made a claim near Hollyer's, a little east from where the Utica railroad station now stands. He had ten acres of breaking done on it by Charles Bannon. Mr. Burley was in the employ of Mr. Bannon and drove the team for this job. This was the first breaking done back of the bluffs—the first breaking done within the boundaries of the county back from the Mississippi, except in the valley of the Rolling Stone.

Robert Taylor made a claim of what is now the village of Stockton, on the east side of the valley. D. Q. Burley made a claim adjoining Robert Taylor's on the west. Mr. Taylor abandoned his location the following year, when Mr. Burley absorbed it by moving his claim to the center of the valley. Mr. Burley traded this claim for a house and lot in Minnesota City to S. A. Houk, who in 1854 sold it to J. B. Stockton, the original proprietor of the village of Stockton. Mr. Burley then made a claim of the farm on which he now lives. His family did not come here until the spring of 1854.

Above Stockton, on the south fork of the Rolling Stone, Mr. Hunt made a claim. He was a proxy or substitute in the employ of a wealthy member living in New York city, who furnished him with two yoke of oxen and all necessary supplies. Mr. Hunt did some breaking and put up about fifty tons of hay. This hay was cut with scythes by Mr. Burley and Mr. Thorp, who helped put it in the stacks. They camped on what is now the L. D. Smith farm while at this job, but made their homes in Minnesota City.

Mr. Hunt went back to New York in the fall and left the cattle



and claim in charge of Mr. Burley. A few days after he left the fifty tons of hay were burned by a fire which swept through the valley. Mr. Burley wintered the stock in Minnesota City. The following spring the oxen were taken up the river by a Mr. Bertram to another association colony in the vicinity of Lake Minnetonka. The claim made by Mr. Hunt was abandoned.

Egbert Chapman made a claim on Sweet's prairie and built a cabin, in which he lived with his family through the winter. He is yet a resident of the county, living in Minnesota City. His son, Edgar Chapman, is now living in Dakota Territory.

Harvey Stradling also selected a location on Sweet's prairie near Chapman's. He was then a young man. In June, 1853, he married Anna Chapman, a daughter of Egbert Chapman. The Rev. William Sweet officiated at this marriage ceremony. This was the first wedding among the colonists.

Mr. Stradling afterward located in the valley above Minnesota City. He died there many years ago. His widow (now Mrs. John Nicklin) is living in Dakota Territory.

In July, 1852, John Cook made a claim in the White Water valley about a mile above White Water Falls. He built a comfortable log house and lived here during the winter and for several years after. His brother, David Cook, also made a claim in this vicinity, which he occupied the following year.

S. D. Putnam selected his claim about a mile below Stockton and built a comfortable log house the following spring near where he now resides. This was on the farm owned and occupied by J. J. Mattison for about twenty years. Mr. Putnam occupied the log house about four years. It was a favorite stopping-place for excursionists, travelers, explorers and claim-hunters, and had the reputation of being the best "hotel" in the county. Mr. Putnam is a prosperous farmer, and quietly enjoys his comfortable home.

O. H. Houk made a claim next below Putnam's, which he held for a year or two. He built a log house on it. The location was long known as the Evans place.

Charles Bannon chose a location about a mile below Putnam's, and is yet living on the claim selected by him as a member of the association in 1852. He did not occupy or make any improvements on it until the following spring. During this time he looked with longing eyes on another claim in the valley about a mile below. The claim which disturbed his contentment had been chosen by a

member of the association for Miss Amidon on a number drawn by or for her. She was not a resident in the colony, and no improvements had been made to indicate that it was occupied.

Mr. Bannon, supposing that the claim had been abandoned, went on to it and took possession by cutting house-logs enough to build a comfortable log house, which he drew together preparatory to calling his friends to his house-raising.

A night or two before the contemplated "raising" was to have taken place, the friends of Miss Amidon, or Miss Amidon's claim, got together and cut each of the house-logs in two, and notified Mr. Bannon not to jump the claim of an *unprotected female*.

This was the first clash among "the faithful members," and to prevent a serious collision, which apparently threatened, the friends of the parties induced Mr. Bannon to abandon the idea of making a change of location and settle on his own claim. All parties united and moved the crippled house-logs up to his original choice of location by number, and there constructed an octagon log house for him as a compromise of the difficulty.

Having no desire to encourage contention, Mr. Bannon acquiesced in the movement, although satisfied in his own mind that he had a just right to the claim and could have held it without wronging any person. Suffice it to say of this matter that Miss Amidon never made her appearance in the valley. The disputed claim was afterward disposed of by the friend or agent of that lady to Henry W. Driver. Mr. Driver pre-empted it as a homestead, and after living on it for five or six years sold his farm and moved to Winona, where he resided for a year or two and then went south.

Mr. Bannon moved on his claim in the spring of 1853, and has occupied it as a farm for over thirty years. He has been a successful farmer. His comfortable buildings, fine stock and well cultivated fields represent that as a member of the Western Farm and Village Association he found that "home in the west" for which he abandoned his business as a carman in New York city and helped to form a colony in the Territory of Minnesota.

Lawrence Dilworth made choice of his claim in accordance with his number drawn as a member of the association, and selected the one next below and adjoining that of Mr. Bannon's. He moved on his claim in the spring of 1853, and has lived there from that time to the present. His good buildings and the well-tilled fields of his fine farm indicate the prosperous farmer and demonstrate that he too

secured the farm for which he came to Rolling Stone. Mr. Dilworth and family were of the party that landed at the colony from the wood-boat on the evening of May 2. They are Catholics. Religious faith was not a test of friendship in the Rolling Stone colony. The high respect entertained by the early settlers for Mr. and Mrs. Dilworth has never been dimmed by the years that have passed since their pioneer days as colonists. The writer hopes for pardon if trespassing on their private affairs, but a remarkable peculiarity in manner of doing business is worthy of mention as an uncommon incident in pioneer life. It is said by one familiar with his affairs that Mr. Dilworth has not during the past thirty years allowed an account to be opened against him. He has paid cash down for whatever he has bought or gone without articles required.

On a farm about a mile below Mr. Dilworth there is now living another member of the association, who, like his neighbors above, remained in the colony, and has secured the home in his old age for which he left New England and came west more than thirty years ago. This farm is now owned and occupied by S. E. Cotton. When the members of the association made choice of farms by their numbers, this locality was chosen by John Iams, and purchased from him by E. B. Drew. This was the first claim sale in the colony. Mr. Drew as assistant surveyor had taken a liking to the place, and when he learned that it had been selected by Mr. Iams he offered him \$10 for his number, or right to it. The offer was accepted and the claim given up to Mr. Drew, who held it and entered it at the United States land office when the land was surveyed. It was held by Mr. Drew until 1857, when he sold it to Mr. Cotton.

When Mr. Cotton first landed at Rolling Stone he built a log house on his village lot previously selected, and made it his home. After the collapse of the association he retained his location, and when the land was surveyed by government he made a claim of eighty acres and pre-empted the village lots as a homestead. He sold it in 1857 and moved to his present home. His claim in Minnesota City is now the farm of James Kennedy.

Between the "Drew claim" (where Mr. Cotton now lives) and Minnesota City a claim was made by Hezakiah Jones, who occupied the locality for several years, and then sold the homestead he there pre-empted. Mr. Jones is yet a resident of Minnesota City. He is the oldest settler in that part of the county north of the city of

Winona. He came here on April 14, 1852, as one of the "pioneer squad" (the only one now living), and was one of the first members of the association to locate in Rolling Stone. Mr. Jones has not been as fortunate as some who came later in the season.

North from the "Drew claim" and west from the present village of Minnesota City were the claims of T. K. Allen and A. A. Gilbert. These claims were parts of the grounds of the original village site. They held claims in the valley above, but when the survey of public lands was made they located themselves here, and each pre-empted a quarter-section of the land surveyed for the village of the colony. Neither of these men are now residents of the county. Both were successful in acquiring the homes in the west for which they helped to organize the association in New York city in 1851. The first grist mill in the county was started by Allen and Gilbert, one of Burr's horse-power mills, in 1853.

Mr. Allen was the recording secretary from the first meeting of the association in New York city, until its last meeting in Minnesota city. He is now a clergyman of the Episcopal church, living in Alexandria, Douglass county, Minnesota.

Mr. Gilbert lived for several years in the city of Winona. His present residence is unknown.

The farm now owned and occupied by Mr. E. B. Drew was held by Mr. Drew as a claim, but it was the choice of W. H. Coryell on his number drawn as a member of the association. It was on this claim that E. B. Drew, C. R. Coryell and W. H. Coryell made their camp when they first came to Rolling Stone. This was their homestead, where they lived and made their first beginning in farming operations in the Territory of Minnesota. By mutual agreement they worked together and held property in common.

When these men first came here it was not their design to settle in the valley. From the description given by Mr. Lord of the country lying west they expected to locate themselves on prairie farms back from the Mississippi. They selected this location to keep up their connection with the association and as their headquarters until they found claims that were more satisfactory.

They explored the country west and made selections of locations in what is now known as the town of Saratoga, in the western part of the county, in the vicinity of what has since been called the Blair settlement. With their teams and big wagon they spent about a week in prospecting and marking their claims with the customary



marks and a small pile of logs for each location, but never made any further improvements, their interests in the valley engaging their attention until their prairie claims were taken by others.

Mr. Drew broke about twenty-five acres, on the farm where he now lives, in the spring of 1852, and planted some corn and cultivated a garden. In the fall he sowed a small patch of wheat by way of experiment. The following year, 1853, he harvested the first crop of wheat ever raised by the settlers in southern Minnesota. From one sack of seed wheat, about two bushels, sown on about two acres of breaking; he secured seventy bushels of superior winter wheat, which he threshed and cleaned by hand-labor.

The following extract is copied from "The Democrat," published at St. Paul, August 3, 1853:

O. M. Lord, Esq., of Filmore county, a delegate to the late democrat convention, has deposited in this office a sample of winter wheat of the red chaff bearded variety, raised on the farm of Messrs. Drew and Coryell, in the Rolling Stone valley, which we regard as the finest specimen of this grain that we have ever seen. Messrs. D. & C. have harvested several acres of this wheat, and good judges estimate that it will yield at the rate of forty bushels to the acre.

This is the first winter wheat ever sown in that vicinity, but Mr. Lord informs us that a large quantity will be put in the ground this fall. There is little doubt that wheat is to become one of the great staple productions of Minnesota, and that flour of the best quality will soon form the most important item in the lists of our exports. Up with your mills, gentlemen.

In 1853 Mr. Drew increased his cultivation by another field of breaking, and raised a large crop of corn. In the fall he sowed about eight acres of winter wheat. In the spring of 1853 he sowed a sack of spring wheat, and harvested about fifty bushels. About thirty bushels of this he sold to Sanborn & Drew, in the spring of 1854. This was the first load of wheat ever sold in the city of Winona, or in southern Minnesota.

In the season of 1854 Mr. Drew harvested, from the eight acres sowed to winter wheat the fall before, about two hundred and fifty bushels. Some of this he sold to the settlers for seed, reserving enough for his own seed, and about eighty bushels which was ground into flour. The first wheat raised in southern Minnesota that was made into flour was a part of this crop.

During the winter W. R. Stewart and Albion Drew took two loads of this wheat, of forty bushels each, to a mill in La Crosse valley, about sixty miles distant, where they waited until their grist was ground, when they returned home with their flour. They were

about a week making the trip, the teams going on the ice to La Crosse and thence up the La Crosse valley. The loads were much lighter on their return, for one fourth of the wheat was taken as toll. The wheat was of No. 1 grade and the flour proved to be of superior quality, fully equal to the best now made by improved mills and more modern processes.

Mr. Drew increased the size of his farm, extended his breaking and cultivation, and increased his acreage of wheat, but at the same time growing large crops of other kinds of farm produce without making a specialty of any particular branch of his business. He has given his attention to the cultivation of fruit, and engaged considerably in stock raising, horses, cattle, sheep and hogs. Although he has extensive ranges of fine pasturage on his large farm, he abandoned sheep farming, on account of the extreme care necessary to protect his flocks from the wolves that infested the vicinity.

Mr. Drew has been a prosperous farmer. He has given his personal attention to all of his farming operations and has made it a practical business occupation. He has held official positions in the town of Rolling Stone, in which he resides; has served as county commissioner, and was a member of the state legislature in 1875, and also in 1876.

C. R. Coryell remained with Mr. Drew for about a year and then went back east to live. W. H. Coryell staid with him about two years, when he married and settled on a claim on the upper part of Wabasha prairie, where W. L. Burr now resides. After a residence here of about a year he left the territory.

Robert Thorp is living on the farm chosen for him on his number drawn. It adjoins that of Mr. Drew. Mr. Thorp's family lived in Minnesota City about two years before they moved to their present location. To hold the claim, and prevent others from jumping it while Mr. Thorp was absent working at his trade as a blacksmith, he built a small shanty, which Mrs. Thorp sometimes occupied temporarily.

Mr. Thorp is now occupying his comfortable stone cottage and broad acres of cultivated fields, for which he abandoned his blacksmith shop in New York city. He has held the office of treasurer of the town of Rolling Stone, in which he lives, for the past fifteen years.

Although Mr. Thorp brought to the colony a large supply of material, stock and tools, he never opened a shop in Minnesota

City. He left his family there in a comfortable hewed log house about 14×16, and went down to Galena, where he worked a part of the years 1852 and 1853. When he moved on his farm he built a small shop in which he sometimes does blacksmithing for himself or to accommodate a neighbor.

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## CHAPTER XXVII.

### CRYSTALLIZATION.

From personal observations made during the extreme high water in the spring of 1852, and from the course of events and progress of affairs generally at Wabasha prairie, Captain Smith decided or consented to locate his contemplated town site on claim No. 4, at the upper landing, instead of on claim No. 1, as he had at first intended. Circumstances apparently compelled him to change his original plans. He did not, however, at once abandon his first impressions, that claim No. 1 was the most valuable on the prairie.

From letters now in the hands of the writer, correspondence between old settlers, who were then holding claims on the prairie, it is evident that for awhile Captain Smith was suspicious of his agent and partner in this speculation, and feared that he might attempt to appropriate the upper landing as an individual possession. With the rush of immigration into the territory, Johnson's ideas were considerably inflated, and he apparently assumed the entire control of affairs at Johnson's landing, but no evidence of treachery was ever developed.

About the first of June Captain Smith brought up a surveyor from Iowa, whose services he secured to lay out a town at the upper landing. To John Ball, United States deputy surveyor, he intrusted the business of laying off and plotting claim No. 4 into lots, streets, etc. The original survey of the town plat of what is now Winona was accordingly made by John Ball for the proprietors, Smith and Johnson.

No government survey of lands had been made on the west side of the river by which to locate the plat of the new town. Mr. Ball took its bearings from a point established by government surveyors

on the opposite side of the river. Its location was described by him as follows: "From the northwest corner of Block 9, the meander post in Wisconsin on the Mississippi river, between Secs. 1 and 6, T. 18 N., R. 10 and 11 W., 4th M., bears 35° east, 39 chains distant."

After due consideration of the matter it was decided to lay off the streets parallel with and at right angles to the river, which at this place runs a little south from an east course (21° south of east). It therefore became necessary that the boundaries should be established satisfactorily with the holders of the adjoining claims. Each of the claims along the river were half a mile square. The division lines between them were a direct north and south course.

The corner stake between No. 4, the Johnson claim, and No. 3, the Stevens claim, stood on the bank of the river, about midway between Walnut and Market streets. The corner stake between No. 4 and No. 5, the Hamilton claim, stood on the bank of the river about midway between Winona and Huff streets.

Several days were spent in general measurements and negotiations before the boundaries of the plat were established, extending on the river from the corner stake of the Stevens claim to the center of Washington street, and running back to the center of Wabasha street. The proprietors of the claims on the river were to retain their rights to their claims as originally made without regard to the survey and plat made by Mr. Ball.

The boundary line on Wabasha street was established by special agreement with the holders of the claims on the south. An agreement, made a matter of record, is as follows:

This article of agreement, made this fifteenth day of June, A.D. Eighteen hundred and fifty-two, Between Wm. B. Gere and Erwin Johnson, both of the County of Wabashaw and Territory of Minnesota, Witnesseth: That the said (*parties*) do hereby agree and bind ourselves to abide by the following specified stipulations in regard to boundary or division line between their respective claims on the Prairie of Wabashaw. The street designated on the Town Plot as Broadway shall be the division line between said claims as far as said Gere's extends, and furthermore the lots in the next Block or Blocks south of and bordering on Broadway shall be equally divided between said Gere and Johnson, and after said Gere has the same measurement of land south of said division Block as said Johnson has north of said division Block, the remaining strip of land bordering on the lake shall be equally divided between the said parties.

In witness whereof we have herewith set our hands and seals.

In presence of }  
John Ball. }

WM. B. GERE.  
E. JOHNSON.

[SEAL]  
[SEAL]



The boundaries between the claims on the river and those in the rear were irregular and "a great deal mixed." To illustrate their relation to each other: The original claims on the river began at a certain stake or starting point on the bank of the river, thence running south half a mile to a corner stake; thence west half a mile to a corner stake; thence north to the bank of the river to a corner stake; thence east along the bank of the river to the place of beginning.

As the line of the river bank is about  $21^{\circ}$  south of east, it is readily seen that the west line was much the longest, and that the boundaries described included more than 160 acres of land. The claim adjoining on the west, if defined in the same manner, will not extend as far south on its east line as the western boundary of the first described.

The irregularity of these boundaries on the south produced corresponding irregularities in the claims in the rear, which were sources of claim difficulties and contentions. In a matter arising from this peculiarity of claim boundaries Henry D. Huff narrowly escaped the loss of his life in the spring of 1854.

Mr. Huff was then the proprietor of claim No. 5, the Hamilton claim. The land in the rear of the east eighty acres was held by George H. Sanborn. The land south of the west eighty was occupied by Elijah Silsbee. With the consent of Mr. Sanborn, but in opposition to Mr. Silsbee's claim rights, Mr. Huff attempted to change the original line of his claim on the south, and make it parallel with the river, or with the line of the streets. To accomplish this, he proposed to mark his boundary by a furrow extending from the southwest corner of the Johnson claim, No. 4, to the southwest corner of his own claim, No. 5. He sent his team with a plow to mark the line, and take possession by breaking and cultivation.

Mr. Silsbee had previously marked his boundaries by a single furrow with a plow. When the team of Mr. Huff approached this furrow, Silsbee stopped them, and, threatening the driver with his gun, drove him off. He then stood guard to prevent any further attempts to trespass on his rights. The tract of land in dispute was but three or four acres. It was not so much the amount or value involved as it was what he supposed to be disregard of the rights of others that aroused the angry passions of Silsbee. It was not alone the protection of property, but an impulsive resistance of what he considered arbitrary oppression.

Learning the state of affairs from the teamster, Mr. Huff went back on the prairie toward where Silsbee had stationed himself. As he approached the furrow which marked the original claim line Silsbee ordered him to halt, and bringing his gun to his shoulder called to him not to cross the furrow, that he would shoot him if he attempted.

Fearless, and paying no attention to the order to halt, Mr. Huff continued to advance, and crossed the furrow. Approaching in a confident manner he said, "You do not intend to shoot me, do you?" Silsbee replied, "I do," and taking deliberate aim fired upon him.

The gun was a double-barrel fowling-piece, owned by M. Wheeler Sargeant, which Silsbee had borrowed. Both barrels were heavily loaded with fine shot and small gravel stones. The contents of one barrel were lodged in Mr. Huff's left side and arm. Fortunately, he had a large pocket-book filled with closely-folded papers in the breast-pocket of his inner coat, and both coats buttoned close. Nearly the whole charge lodged in the pocket-book. A part of the missiles were burrowed in the muscles of his chest and left arm.

Mr. Huff was knocked down and disabled by the shock and injuries received. He was taken home, and was under the care of a surgeon for several weeks. No serious results followed the injuries. He readily recovered.

Silsbee was immediately arrested, and after an examination before a justice of the peace he was bound over for trial at the next term of the United States court, and released on bail. On account of some informality no court was held that year. The following year the case was continued over on account of serious sickness of Silsbee. In the meantime Mr. Huff purchased the Silsbee claim, and the matter was permitted to pass without legal action in court.

With the proceeds of the sale of his claim Mr. Silsbee, with Charles S. Hamilton as partner, opened a store on the corner of Center and Front streets, where a warehouse now stands, and for awhile he was considered to be a respectable citizen, but for many years previous to his death, which occurred about ten or twelve years ago, he was an outcast in community.

It is said by an old settler that when the town plot was first made by John Ball the present levee was laid off into blocks, num-

bered from 1 to 6, and divided into lots, but that the plan was changed by the special directions of Capt. Smith and a public levee substituted. The high water of that season overflowed the bank as far as the south side of Front street, making the water-lots of less immediate value in the estimation of the proprietors. The landing was one of the important items of the claim with Capt. Smith, and he was desirous of making it available to its greatest extent.

It is to Capt. Smith that the city of Winona is indebted for the commodious levee it now holds. It was the pride of its citizens before it was deformed and crippled by railroad tracks and other modern improvements, and suffered to wear and waste away from neglect of attention by those whose duty it is to protect and care for it.

Blocks 1 and 6 on the river were reserved from the public levee and divided into lots as plotted. It is said that this was done by Mr. Huff before the plot was recorded. Block 1 contained but three lots belonging to Smith and Johnson; the other two, lots 1 and 2, belonged to the Stevens claim.

When the town site of Smith and Johnson was surveyed and plotted by John Ball, United States deputy surveyor, it was given the name of Montezuma, by E. H. Johnson. He was afterward extremely tenacious of the name, and strongly opposed the substitution of Winona. No record was made of the plot until the following year. Wabasha county had no county records. In 1853, when Fillmore county (which also included this county) was created and regularly organized, the plot was recorded.

Henry D. Huff bought an interest in this town site in 1853, and also had claim No. 5 surveyed and plotted as a part of the town. In a newspaper article, published several years ago, Mr. Huff said relative to this matter, "The town proper had been surveyed, plotted and named Montezuma by Smith and Johnson. With the consent of Capt. Smith I erased the name of Montezuma and inserted the name of Winona on the plot, and paid Mr. Stoll, of Minneowah, for recording the same as Winona. I found out afterward that the name Montezuma was retained on the record, and asked Mr. Stoll why he put in the name of Montezuma when it did not appear on the plot. He said Johnson wanted it Montezuma, so he recorded it Montezuma, adding a note that the proprietors had changed it to Winona."

During the early part of this season another town site was

located in this county. The location selected was along the river just above what is now the village of Homer—the claim purchased of Peter Gorr by Timothy Burns. This town site did not include Bunnell's landing, but extended from Bunnell's claim up the river along the bluffs. It was on the "main land," two or three miles below "that bar in the river," Wabasha prairie.

A stock company was organized. There were eight shares valued at \$200 each. The stockholders and proprietors were Timothy Burns, lieutenant-governor of Wisconsin, residing at La Crosse, Willard B. Bunnell, of Bunnell's landing, Isaac Van Etten, Charles W. Borup, Charles H. Oakes, Alexander Wilkin, Justus C. Ramsey and William L. Ames, of St. Paul.

This company was a strong and influential one, and with the exception of Bunnell they were all men of considerable capital. With them their investments here were wholly matter of speculation. It was supposed to be a "good thing," and strong efforts were made by them to build up a town that would successfully compete with Capt. Smith's claims for the business of the interior when the back country should become settled.

Soon after Smith and Johnson had their town site plotted the speculation began to be developed, and in July this rival town was surveyed and plotted by Isaac Thompson for the proprietors, and the name of Minneowah given to it. This name is of the Dakota language. It was selected by the proprietors of the new town, and not given to the locality by the Sioux. It is not now known whether the Indians had a name designative of this place or not. None was ever known by any of the settlers. The literal translation of the name Minneowah is "Falling Water."

In a description of the Falls of St. Anthony by the Rev. John A. Merrick, an Episcopal clergyman at St. Paul, published about the 1st of January, 1852, he says, "By the Dahcota or Sioux Indians they are called 'Minne-ha-hah,' or 'Minne-ra-ra,' (Laughing Water,) and also 'Minne-owah' (Falling Water)—general expressions applied to all waterfalls."

The historical address of M. Wheeler Sargeant, from which extracts have been made, says, "The town contained 318 lots; consequently at that early day looked quite imposing *on paper*—still more so *on the spot*; for at least one half of it was 400 feet above the river and of *nearly* perpendicular access; \* \* \* and for the



next year it was by far the most pretentious place below St. Paul. \* \* \* Except the unimportant items of locality, buildings and inhabitants, it had all the characteristics of *a great city.*"

The plot was put into market at St. Paul and lots were bought and sold, without knowledge of their locality—whether on the table along the river or on the bluff above. Not much was done there by way of improvements until the following year.

In the spring of 1853 a large hotel was built by the proprietors—much the largest and best building on the west side of the river below St. Paul. For awhile Minneowah was truly a rival town, and strongly contested with Montezuma for public attention. Its advantages of location "on the main land," over that "sand-bar," liable to overflow any year, were loudly proclaimed, and its prospects were for awhile apparently promising.

The hotel was opened, and steamboats landed passengers who were prospecting for locations. Stores were built and goods brought on,—dwellings commenced, but dividends for the sale of lots were unknown; the expense column was much the heaviest. The original stockholders divided up their shares and generously allowed others to hold stock in Minneowah.

Among the new proprietors who became residents were Myron Toms, who, while living in St. Paul, purchased a half-share. H. B. Stoll purchased a half-share from Mr. Van Etten. James F. Toms, Charles G. Waite and others became proprietors. Peter Burns held an interest as successor of his brother Timothy Burns, whose death occurred about this time. He was the only shareholder who claimed to have made anything from the transaction. He says that when the prospects of success were the most flattering he sold his interest to the other proprietors for \$1,000, and went back to La Crosse.

An addition to Minneowah was surveyed and plotted for Bunell, Stoll and John Lavine. This addition was principally suburban lots of from five to ten acres each for residence property. It was located above the original town, extending along the bluffs to the mouth of Pleasant valley. Mr. Lavine occupied this land and held it as a claim.

Among the early residents of Minneowah was the Hon. C. F. Buck, of the town of Winona, then a young lawyer just starting in business. Mr. Buck came here about the first of September, 1853, and remained until 1855, when he moved to Winona. Charles M. Lovel, of Fillmore county, was for awhile a merchant here and

carried on considerable of a trade. There were many others who were temporary residents of that locality. A man by the name of Dougherty remained there for several years.

The town plot of Minneowah was never recorded. It was placed on file in the office of the register of deeds of Fillmore county, while Mr. Stoll was register and had his office at Minneowah. In 1855 Myron Toms, holding power of attorney from the proprietors, withdrew the plot from the files for the purpose of entering the land as a claim. The town site of Minneowah was then unknown on any record. It was said that this was done to oust some of the proprietors and holders of lots, but the location was jumped by some of the citizens residing there who filed their claims in the United States land office as actual settlers on the land. The matter was contested, but the resident settlers held their claims as homesteads.

Mr. — Dougherty drew the hotel and a store with his share of the spoils. The stockholders and owners of lots lost all right and title to the locality. The commercial town "on the main land" vanished. Minneowah is now known only by tradition to the residents of the county.

Willard B. Bunnell, one of the original stockholders of Minneowah, the resident proprietor, was, in the beginning, the most zealous and active of the company in his efforts to build up this town, and gave most of his time and attention to the scheme, but later he learned he was but a tool in the hands of his more experienced and wealthy associates. The professional town-site speculators were "too much" for the little Indian trader. He became a silent partner in the concern for awhile, and then relinquished his share to the others.

No one intimately acquainted with Will Bunnell had reason to doubt the sincerity of his belief that Wabasha prairie had been entirely flooded, and was liable to be again submerged in extreme high water. This idea he imbibed from his belief at that time in many of the traditions and some of the superstitions of the Indians, although he was a man of intelligence and of some acquirements. Notwithstanding his active, restless temperament and impulsive manners, he was popular with his acquaintances. He was a genial, social companion, and a gentleman when frontier sociability was not carried to excess.

About the first of June, 1852, John Burns brought his family into the territory of Minnesota and settled in this county. He located

himself in the mouth of the valley to which his name was afterward given, and which is now known as "Burns Valley." His family then consisted of his wife, three daughters — Mary, "Maggie," Elicia — and his son William. Elicia died not long after she came here.

Mr. Burns had, prior to this, been a resident of the State of Wisconsin, living near Mineral Point, where he had been engaged in farming and stock-raising. On his arrival here, he landed at Bunnell's landing, with all of his household goods, farming implements, and a large herd of cattle, horses, hogs, fowls, etc., to transport all of which Mr. Burns used to say he had to charter the Nominee for the trip. He moved direct from the landing to his claim, where, instead of the ordinary claim shanty, the family found a home ready to receive them. They never had any experience of shanty life in Minnesota.

The claim on which Mr. Burns settled was selected for him by his son, Timothy Burns, lieutenant-governor of Wisconsin. The claim was chosen early in the fall of 1851, soon after the treaty with the Sioux for the sale of their lands, on the west side of the Mississippi. During the winter, about the first of February, Mr. Burns came up the river on the ice, with the mail carrier, to see the location in the Indian country, which he had been notified had been selected for him as a stock farm and family homestead.

After stopping a few days at La Crosse to visit his sons, Timothy and Peter Burns, he came up to look at the claim and found it to be a choice satisfactory to himself. He decided to secure it and bring his family on in the spring. Making his headquarters at Bunnell's, he took possession of the claim and proceeded to get out timber with which to build a frame house on it in the spring.

About the first of April he returned home, going down the river on the Nominee, then on her first trip. He left his claim in the care of his sons in La Crosse. The special charge of the claim was under the watchful eye of W. B. Bunnell, whose sister was the wife of Peter Burns. It was through the aid of Bunnell that the claim was first selected and held.

Early in the spring Timothy Burns had a house built on this claim for his father. It was at that time the best building in southern Minnesota. It was a commodious but rather old-fashioned farmhouse. The frame was of oak timber with posts and braces, covered with a shingled roof, the sides clapboarded and painted. It was

into this house, just completed, that Mr. Burns moved his family about the first of June. Its pleasant location among the large old oaks on the bank of the stream gave it a cozy and homelike appearance.

This house was occupied by Mr. Burns and his family for several years, until it took fire from some defect in the chimney and burned to the ground with the most of its contents. He then built another house on the site of the first, which it somewhat resembles in general external appearance, although its internal arrangements are of more modern style. This building is yet standing, and is used as the farm residence of the occupant of the land.

Mr. Burns opened up a farm on his claim, but gave his attention principally to stock-raising and the dairy. The early settlers were for many years greatly dependent on Mr. Burns for *good*, fresh butter, eggs and chickens, while Mr. Burns furnished them fresh beef from his herd. The claim and vicinity furnished an extensive range for his cattle, and afforded unlimited meadows of grass-land for their winter's supply of hay. His surplus of the farm always found ready sale on Wabasha prairie or with the immigrants that came into the county to settle.

When Mr. Burns first took possession of his claim he obtained permission of the Sioux to occupy the land, cut the timber and build a house on it. For this permit he gave the Indians two barrels of flour and a barrel of pork. This he paid under the impression and with the belief that he was purchasing their rights to the land. He always after maintained that he bought his claim from their chief Wabasha, and that no one had a better right to it than himself.

At the time he took possession there were two or three large Indian tepees standing in the vicinity of where his house was built. They were about 15×20, of the same style and structure as those found on Wabasha prairie and in the mouth of Gilmore valley. This locality was the special home of Wabasha and his family relatives when living in this vicinity. It was sometimes called Wabasha's garden by the old settlers.

Quite a number of Indian graves were on these grounds. Nearly in front of the farmhouse there were two or three graves of more modern burial lying side by side. These were said to be the last resting-place of some of Wabasha's relatives. The Sioux made a special request of Mr. Burns and his family that these graves should not be disturbed. This Mr. Burns promised, and the little



mounds, covered with billets of wood, were never molested, although they were in his garden and not far from his house. For many years they remained as they were left by the Indians, until the wood by which they were covered had rotted away entirely. A light frame or fence of poles put there by Mr. Burns always covered the locality during his lifetime.

For several years after Mr. Burns located here the Sioux who visited this part of the territory were accustomed to make it their camping-grounds. Although they were unwelcome visitors, and their arrival always dreaded by the female portion of the family, Mr. Burns was never annoyed by their presence,—they were never troublesome. To allay any demonstrations of timidity on the part of Mrs. Burns or her daughters, he would chidingly remark, “Sure ye have no cause for fear,—didn’t I buy the land from old Wabasha himself—and pay him his own price for it too—a barrel of pork and two barrels of flour? They will not harm ye—don’t be bothering about the Indians, now.”

Mr. Burns never lost anything by the Indians. His property was never disturbed, and in but one particular were they ever familiar or assumed possession of anything without permission. During the first season Mr. Burns had a field of corn and pumpkins on new breaking. The corn was a poor crop, but the pumpkins were plentiful. Thinking to make some contributions to them, Mrs. Burns gave the squaws permission to take all the pumpkins they desired. The squaws helped themselves liberally. Every season afterward the squaws made an annual visit and swarmed into Mr. Burns’ cornfields. They carried off “Mrs. Burns’ pumpkins,” but left the corn for the blackbirds to forage on.

Mr. Burns was appointed a justice of the peace, by Gov. Ramsey, not long after he came here. He was the second justice of the peace appointed in Wabasha county; the first was T. K. Allen, of Minnesota City. He held the position until his successor was elected in the fall of 1853.

“The rich Irish brogue” plainly revealed the Milesian origin of Mr. Burns. His quaint expressions are pleasantly remembered by his friends and acquaintances. As a justice of the peace his court was a session of comic drollery that was heartily enjoyed by the settlers. His rulings and decisions were given from an intuitive and impulsive feeling of right and justice, rather than from his comprehension of the law governing the cases. His honesty of purpose

was never questioned; as a citizen he had the respect of the early settlers.

Mr. Burns, his wife, and their daughter Elicia, died on their farm in the mouth of Burns valley,—on the claim where they settled in 1852. Mrs. Burns died in September, 1860, Mr. Burns in March, 1870. The homestead is yet in possession of one of the family. It is owned by Miss Maggie Burns, one of their daughters. Mary, the other daughter, is now known as Mrs. E. S. Smith, of the city of Winona. An interesting family of sons and daughters, young ladies and gentlemen, now call her “mother.” “Bill” Burns has gone west.

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## CHAPTER XXVIII.

### RESPECTABILITY.

AMONG the settlers on Wabasha prairie during the early part of the summer of 1852 were the Rev. Hiram S. Hamilton and his son Charles S. Hamilton, who arrived about the first of June. After exploring the prairie in search of claims, without settling on any, they made choice of one across the slough at the foot of the Sugar-Loaf Bluff, where they built a small claim shanty and commenced pioneer life. Finding the location a lonesome and unpleasant one, they moved their shanty and housekeeping material over on the prairie, and put it up on the bank of the river—on a mound at about what is now the foot of Main street.

After living on the levee for a short time, they moved into the shanty on claim No. 2—the claim held by Caleb Nash. While living there, H. S. Hamilton acquired possession of the claim, and soon after built a house on the bank of the river, a little way above where the saw-mill of the Winona Lumber Company now stands. He here located himself with his family, consisting of his wife and two sons, Charles S. and Eugene, and made it his home for about ten years, when he sold his property on Wabasha prairie to Henry D. Huff and moved on a farm in the southeast part of Wisconsin, where he died a few years ago.

Rev. Hiram S. Hamilton, or, as he was most commonly called, “Elder Hamilton,” was a prominent and well-known citizen of this

county in the pioneer days of its settlement. Through his influence very many of the early settlers came into the territory, and a large number of his relations and personal friends, as well as strangers, were induced to settle in this county, many of them on Wabasha prairie, now the city of Winona.

Mr. Hamilton was a gentleman of liberal education, of fine personal appearance, pleasing and entertaining in his manners, but of quiet, unobtrusive habits. He was a Congregational minister, and had preached for many years before he came here. On account of poor health he resigned his position as pastor of a church in Dubuque and came to Minnesota, expecting to be benefited by the change of climate and locality. At Dubuque he was popular with his congregation and held in high esteem as a citizen. During his residence in Minnesota he was popular as a preacher and respected by the early settlers, among whom he had many warm friends who knew him personally, many who now hold pleasant recollection and retain that respect to his memory.

From the time he first landed on Wabasha prairie until after the society of the Congregational church was organized, of which he was the pastor, he preached quite regularly to attentive congregations of mixed religious ideas and beliefs. His well written and impressively delivered sermons were interesting and instructive, and were always listened to with respectful attention. Their influence helped to maintain a moral restraint over the community of unorganized citizens, of a locality in which uncertain public opinion was the controlling law. His services were gratuitously disposed, but were none the less valued or beneficial in the settlement.

Although Elder Hamilton lawfully came in possession of and lawfully held claim No. 2, the circumstances and manner by which the claim was secured caused a feeling of opposition from interested individuals, which, for a time, threatened to lessen his influence as a teacher or adviser, but public opinion indorsed his action in the matter. His popularity as a preacher was maintained, and his reputation as a citizen was unimpaired by the transaction.

The charges against him by his opponents were, that he had taken possession of and held the claim regardless of the rights of others; that in his proceedings in the matter he had laid aside his "Sunday clothes" and descended to the level of other settlers, and "jumped the claim."

Claim jumping was not considered as a criminal offense in public

opinion if sustained by the laws governing claims. The wrong, if any was committed, was generally forgiven and forgotten by the public if the attempt was successful, and particularly if the claim proved to be valuable. Some incidents relative to the change of proprietors of claim No. 2 will be given to show the circumstances under which it was jumped.

Charles S. Hamilton was about seventeen or eighteen years of age when he came here with his father. He was a reckless, dashing and rather fast young man, inclined to be inconsiderate and forward in his manners. He was brought here to withdraw him from the evil influences of "young America" in Dubuque. Although "gassy" and volatile, Charlie was not considered a vicious boy, and for awhile he was a general favorite with the settlers,—his restless freedom was more amusing than offensive. Many things were overlooked because he was Elder Hamilton's son. Without occupation he amused himself in hunting and fishing and in explorations of the country. He studied the mystery of claims among the groups of settlers who gathered to discuss this general topic of conversation.

Learning the history, condition and approximate value at which every claim was held, he became interested in the idea of forming a stock company and laying out another town site on the Nash claim. Nash had made his claim under the instructions of Johnson, and held it under his directions and patronage, hardly conscious that it was his own by right. Knowing this condition of the claim, Charlie proposed his plan to Johnson and W. B. Gere, who favored the scheme. Johnson readily induced Nash to enter into an arrangement with them and become one of the company.

The plan proposed was, that Nash should transfer his claim to the new company for a specified consideration, when it was to be surveyed and plotted for the company, composed of E. H. Johnson, W. B. Gere, Caleb Nash and Charles S. Hamilton. To secure equal rights and privileges to the proprietors, the services of a lawyer in La Crosse were secured, to draw up all necessary papers, by making him also one of the stockholders.

As a preliminary movement, a quit-claim deed was drawn up, transferring all of the right and interest of Nash in the claim to Johnson and Co. This deed was given to Charlie Hamilton, to procure the signature of Nash. Except a nominal consideration, the payment of the full amount agreed upon was postponed until the company was organized.



To get the signature of Nash to this quit-claim deed Charlie went to "Goddard's," where Nash was then stopping, laid up on account of sickness. On learning the object of his visit Mrs. Goddard advised Nash against signing any papers until he received the money down for his claim. Her advice was unheeded. Charlie Hamilton's representations that "it was all right"—"only to show that he meant business, so that they could organize the company"—induced Nash to sign his name.

In narrating this occurrence "Aunt Catharine" said, "I suppose the boys thought I did not know anything about business, but poor Nash was sorry enough afterward that he did not listen to me, when I told him he was giving his claim away."

The deed was given into the hands of the "attorney of the company," at La Crosse, for safe keeping. To secure the claim and prevent Nash or anyone else from attempting to get possession, it was proposed to allow Elder Hamilton to occupy the claim, and utilize him as a tool in the affair.

H. S. Hamilton and Charlie were then living in their shanty on the public levee. By "request of the company," he was induced to move into and occupy the Nash shanty until the necessary papers were made out and the company were ready for business. He accordingly took possession, sent for his family and made it his home. He thus became an actual settler on the claim, and its sole possessor in full conformity with the laws governing claims.

The "joint stock company" lost all right, title and interest in the claim they had induced Nash to transfer to them. Neither the company nor individuals of the company were ever able to dispossess Mr. Hamilton, or obtain remuneration for the losses resulting from this failure of their scheme, although several suits at law were brought to recover damages. Some effort was made to arouse sympathy for Nash, whose claim, it was reported, had been jumped by Elder Hamilton, but without avail. The settlers generally understood the matter and took sides with the elder.

H. S. Hamilton afterward obtained a quit-claim deed direct from Caleb Nash, giving him a reasonable compensation for it, although he had previously relinquished his rights to it to Johnson and Co. It is said of Nash, by those who knew him, that he was an industrious and well-disposed young man, of very moderate acquirements. He had unlimited confidence in Johnson, who really held the claim through him and actually controlled it. Caleb Nash left

Wabasha prairie and went down the river in the spring of 1853. It is not known that he ever returned to the territory.

Rev. H. S. Hamilton held quiet possession of claim No. 2, now known as "Hamilton's addition," until about the time of the public land sale, when he became involved in another "difference" relative to it, which eventually resulted in bringing about a division of the Congregational church, by the withdrawal of a part of its members and an organization of another society, the Presbyterian church.

When Henry C. Gere brought his family to Wabasha prairie he attempted to take possession of the Stevens claim, but was prevented by the decisive opposition of Mr. Stevens and his friends. Professing to have a just right to the claim, he was not satisfied to let the matter rest. Not daring to attempt a forcible entry on the land, and as there was no legal authority to appeal to, Mr. Gere made application to the Wabasha Protection Club for aid to secure possession.

A majority of the members of the claim club were non-residents, living in La Crosse. The constitution and by-laws of the club, to which every member was required to affix his signature, provided that all questions of difference relative to claims should be examined by a committee of three appointed by the club for that purpose, who were required to make a report of their action to that body for its final decision. Each party was entitled to counsel and allowed to present witnesses.

Mr. Gere's appeal was duly referred to a special committee for investigation. After numerous adjourned meetings, at which the parties appeared with their attorneys and witnesses, without arriving at a decision, it was agreed to submit the matter to arbitrators. The referees were Jacob S. Denman, of Wabasha prairie, and F. M. Rublee, of La Crosse.

Attorneys and witnesses came up from La Crosse two or three times to attend this arbitration court before an agreement could be effected. The case was finally settled by the parties consenting to divide the claim between them,—Silas Stevens to retain the west eighty acres, and the east eighty was to be given up to Henry C. Gere.

It was said that the sympathies of the members of the club and of the referees were on the side of Gere. Mr. Gere was a large, fine-looking man of social habits and pleasing manners, a smooth talker that could represent his own side of the question. He was a

poor man and had a large family dependent on his individual efforts for their support.

Mr. Stevens was supposed to have considerable capital which he was using in speculations. He was not a popular man with settlers in a new country. He was a rigid church member, a strict and zealous temperance man, and in politics an abolitionist from the old whig party. He was a man firm in his own opinions and in his own ideas of right, and was self-reliant in all of his business affairs. He discouraged familiarity and but few comprehended him as a man.

Silas Stevens was a native of the State of New York, born in 1799; in 1829 removed to Pennsylvania; in 1840 moved to Illinois, driving through with his own teams; in 1841 settled on a farm in Lake county, Illinois. In the spring of 1851, leaving the management of his farm to his son Wm. H. Stevens, then a young man living with his mother and sister on the homestead, he visited the upper Mississippi for the purpose of making investments. He stopped at La Crosse, where he opened a lumber yard and speculated in real estate, claims, etc.—moderately and carefully, never indulging in wild schemes.

It was through Mr. Stevens that Gere came to La Crosse, where he placed him with his family on a claim to hold until a sale could be effected. Mr. Stevens furnished the supplies, and, with the men employed in his lumber yard, boarded with the family. He also employed Gere in his lumber yard as salesman, where Gere's pretentious style led many to suppose that he was the responsible head in the business.

In Illinois both Stevens and Gere were zealous members of the same church. In La Crosse Mr. Gere found different society. The free and easy sociability and western style of speculation to which he was introduced, suited his active temperament and visionary style of business.

Early in the winter Gere attempted to secure the claim he was holding for Mr. Stevens, but was prevented by Mr. Stevens entering it at the land office before Gere could file his pre-emption papers. From this transaction Mr. Stevens lost confidence in Gere, and all friendship ceased. He dissolved all association, for Gere had represented that they were partners in their business transactions.

Mr. George W. Clark, who was in Mr. Stevens' employ at that time, says he never heard of a partnership between the two men. Gere took charge of business when Mr. Stevens was temporarily

absent. Mr. Stevens once bought a raft of lumber on which he was given thirty days' time. Being asked for an indorser, he, for form's sake, asked Gere to sign the note with him. The security was satisfactory and the note was paid by Mr. Stevens when due.

Mr. Stevens retained the half of the claim which he had made in good faith for himself, in the fall previous. The other half as justly belonged to him. He submitted to this division as a final settlement of all difficulties with Gere. The west eighty of the original Stevens claim is now known as Stevens' addition.

Leaving his affairs in Minnesota in the hands of his son, W. H. Stevens, Silas Stevens continued his speculations elsewhere for a year or two longer, when he made arrangements to locate permanently in Winona, but never accomplished this design. While on his way here from Galena with horses, traveling by land, he was taken with cholera and died after a few hours' sickness. His death occurred at Fayette, La Fayette county, Wisconsin, on July 20, 1854.

His wife and daughter had already moved to Winona, where they made it their home while living. His daughter was the wife of H. C. Bolcom, a well known citizen, who came here in 1854.

Wm. H. Stevens is the oldest settler now living on Wabasha prairie, the oldest inhabitant of the city of Winona. Norman B. Stevens, an older brother, came here in 1856, and is now living in the city of Winona.

After the death of Silas Stevens the Stevens claim passed into the possession of W. H. Stevens. He sold an undivided interest in it to Wm. Ashley Jones and E. S. Smith. It was surveyed into lots and streets on the same scale as the original town site of Smith and Johnson, and designated as Stevens' addition.

Wm. H. Stevens has been interested in many of the enterprises by which the city of Winona has been developed. He has held several official positions. In the fall of 1853 he was elected justice of the peace. He has served as deputy sheriff. In later years he was a member of the board of education. In 1872 and in 1873 he was a member of the state legislature as senator from the eighth district in Winona county.

Mrs. Stevens, the wife of Wm. H. Stevens, was an early settler in this county. She came here in 1852 and lived in the colony at Rolling Stone with her relatives. She is a sister of Mrs. S. D. Putman and of S. A. and O. H. Houk, who were members of the association. In the fall and winter of that year Mrs. Stevens (then



Miss "Hetty" Houk) taught the first district school at Minnesota city that was ever held in southern Minnesota; she also taught the first district school ever opened in the city of Winona, in the fall of 1854.

About July 1, 1852, Byron A. Viets came up from La Crosse with a small drove of cattle, principally cows and young stock. He landed them on Wabasha prairie, where he was successful in disposing of his entire herd to the settlers on the prairie and at Rolling Stone.

In a trade with Johnson he purchased two or three lots in the town plot. This was the first sale of lots after the claim was surveyed and plotted; the first sale of real estate in the new town or village of Montezuma, now city of Winona.

One of these lots, purchased by Mr. Viets, was lot 2, block 10, on Front street; another was lot 4, block 14. The quit-claim deeds by which the title to these lots was transferred from Smith and Johnson to Byron A. Viets, were placed on record in the office of the register of deeds of Washington county at Stillwater, the county seat.

Mr. Viets also bought a claim of eighty acres lying between the claim held by Wm. B. Gere and the one held by Elijah Silsbee. It was early discovered that the Beacher-Gere claim was an expansive one, covering more territory than allowed by law, and S. K. Thompson gave notice that he had selected a claim in that locality, but he failed to protect it by improvements.

It was in nominal possession of several different persons who jumped it one from another, while each failed to occupy it. Early in the summer Isaac W. Simonds came up from La Crosse and took possession of it. It was said that he was in the employ of Peter Burns. To show that it was a claim held by a bona fide settler, he planted a few potatoes and cultivated a small patch of ground. This garden spot was in the vicinity of where the State Normal School now stands.

It was generally understood among the settlers that this was Thompson's claim, although he had not occupied it,—he was living with John Evans at the time. In the absence of Simonds at La Crosse, where he made his home, Thompson took possession by building the customary log pen, and with the aid of John Evans held it for a short time. To settle this claim dispute, it was agreed that Thompson and Simonds should hold the land jointly or divide it between them.



JACOB BONHAM.



Without the knowledge of Thompson, Mr. Simonds traded off the claim to Mr. Viets, and gave him possession. Thompson lost his interest without realizing anything from the sale. Mr. Viets built a shanty on it, and on the 20th of July brought his family from La Crosse, and became an actual resident on the prairie.

Having some surplus funds, Mr. Viets at once made arrangements to improve his town lots. He decided to build a house for the accommodation of the traveling public on lot 2, block 10, fronting on the levee. He brought up material and carpenters from La Crosse, and put up a building about  $24 \times 28$ , a story and a half high—a low porch extended across the front. It was afterward, in 1853, improved by the addition of a long one-story attachment in the rear for dining-room, kitchen, etc. This was at first known as "Viets Tavern," then as the "Viets House," but was better known to the early settlers as the "Winona Hotel," and later as the old "Winona House."

This house was built in August. The roof was the second on the prairie covered with shingles. The first was on the house of John Evans, on the Evans claim, the third was on the shanty built by Dr. Balcombe, and the fourth on the house built by Elder Ely, on the corner of Center and Second streets. In October the rooms in the lower part of the house were plastered. The first plastered rooms on the prairie were in the house of Elder Ely. Mr. Viets occupied this tavern for about two months, when he leased it to David Olmsted for a private residence, and moved his family down to La Crosse to spend the winter.

Late in this season Hon. David Olmsted, accompanied by a brother, arrived at Winona from Fort Atkinson, Iowa. They came through the country on the same trail Mr. Olmsted had traveled before when he accompanied the Winnebagoes on their removal from Iowa to Long Prairie, Minnesota. The trail was up through Money Creek valley, and along the divide between the Burns and Gilmore valley, on the old government trail leading down the ravine back of George W. Clark's residence. They traveled on foot from Fort Atkinson to Wabasha prairie, packing their camp supplies on a pony which they brought along.

Mr. Olmsted then proposed to locate himself on Wabasha prairie and make it his home. He leased the Viets House for a residence, and had some furniture sent on and stored there, but his wife remained east on a visit, and did not return until the following spring.



In the meantime Mr. Olmsted changed his plans and located in St. Paul. This part of the territory was always a favorite locality with Mr. Olmsted. He came to Winona in 1855, and made it his home while he remained in Minnesota. On account of poor health he removed to Vermont, where he died of consumption in 1861. The memory of David Olmsted deserves more than this brief notice of one of the early settlers of this county, and if space permits farther reference will be made of his residence in this locality.

In 1852, when David Olmsted leased the house of Mr. Viets, he placed it and the furniture stored there in the care of Edwin Hamilton, who lived alone in it during the winter.

About the last of January, 1853, Mr. Viets learned that a stranger was occupying his claim on Wabasha prairie that he bought of Simonds. He came up with his wife to look after it. On arriving here, he found that a man by the name of Benjamin had jumped his claim, and was then in possession of it, professing to hold it as an abandoned claim.

Mr. Viets, accompanied by Wm. B. Gere, went immediately to his shanty with their revolvers in their hands and requested the claim jumper to vacate the locality as soon as possible. Not being able to resist so urgent a request presented for his consideration, he hurriedly left the claim and went back to La Crosse, where he had been living. It was said this man was in the employ of a Mr. Healy, for whom he had jumped the claim.

In the spring Mr. Viets sold out all of his interest on Wabasha prairie and moved back to La Crosse, where he settled in La Crosse county.

About the first of July, 1852, George M. Gere came up from La Crosse and settled on Wabasha prairie. He brought with him his wife and a very large family of children. He also brought up, with his household furniture, tools and material for a boot and shoe shop. He was the father of Wm. B. Gere, and brother of H. C. Gere.

For temporary accommodation they went to the shanty of H. C. Gere, where the two families lived together for a month or two. It was said that there were eighteen regular occupants of that little shanty, 12×16. The summer was dry and warm, and they found plenty of room outside without inconvenience.

In September, when Mr. Denman closed out his mercantile business and moved out on his claim, Mr. Gere leased his house on La Fayette street and occupied it with his family during the winter.

He was a boot and shoe maker by trade, and occupied the front room of his residence as a shop. He here started the first shop in the county for the manufacture and repairs of boots and shoes of the settlers.

The following spring he built a shanty on his son's claim. It stood on the south side of Wabasha street, back of where the high school building now stands. It was 16×32, one story with a shingled roof. He occupied this locality until he left Winona.

Not long after Mr. Gere came into the territory he was appointed a justice of the peace for the county of Wabasha, by Gov. Ramsey. After Fillmore county was created he was continued in the same official position. He was also elected justice of the peace at the first election, in the fall of 1853.

His shoe shop was his office and where he held his court. When he moved from the house belonging to Mr. Denman he built a small shop on the alley near the west side of La Fayette street, between Front and Second streets. His shop was a favorite lounging place for the settlers to while away an idle hour. His house was often used on Sundays for preaching and other religious exercises.

Mr. Gere was a large, dignified appearing man, about fifty years of age. His intimate friends speak of him with respect, as being an intelligent, consistent and exemplary christian gentleman; usually cheerful; a good-humored, companionable man, who enjoyed a harmless joke and innocent sport,—one who did not consider it a sin to smile when pleased.

Soon after Winona county was created Mr. Gere moved to Chatfield, then the county seat of Fillmore county. He left Winona about the first of July, 1854.

During the spring and summer of 1852 Andrew Cole, a lawyer, living in La Crosse, made frequent visits to Wabasha prairie. These visits were to acquire a knowledge of the country, to form the acquaintance of the settlers, speculate in claims, and also to attend to professional business.

Although there were no courts of justice, nor even a county organization, there was business for the lawyers in contesting the claim difficulties, which became frequent as soon as the settlers began to wrangle for what they considered to be the best claims or choicest locations. These claim disputes were sometimes brought before the claim clubs for settlement. It was important to have counsel who had some knowledge of claim laws. When justices

were appointed these claim disputes were for awhile tried before them, until it was discovered that, as matters relating to title in real estate, they were not under the jurisdiction of that court.

In the fall Mr. Cole brought his wife up from La Crosse and became a resident of Minnesota. He was the first lawyer to settle on Wabasha prairie—the first to settle in southern Minnesota for the practice of his profession. Being the only lawyer on the west side of the river, it was said that for the accommodation of his clients, he sometimes acted as counsel on both sides in the same suit, and at the same time acting as confidential adviser to the claim committee, or of the court, if matters of law were not clear to the inexperienced justices.

The house he occupied was one built by E. H. Johnson, which stood on lot 4, block 10, fronting on the levee. It was a small one-story building about 16×24, with a lean-to on the back part of the east side about 10×12. This was the third house with plastered rooms. The roof was shingled. There were seven buildings with shingled roofs at the close of this year.

Mr. Cole had his office in his residence. He occupied this place for three or four years, when he built a house on the corner of Fifth and Harriet streets, opposite the First Ward Park, where he lived during the remaining time of his residence in Winona. In about 1858 he went east and located himself in Poughkeepsie, New York, where he yet resides.

When Fillmore county was created Mr. Cole was appointed judge of probate by Gov. Ramsey. He was the first official in that position in this part of the territory along the Mississippi.

During the first three or four months after the settlement at Minnesota City was commenced, commendable zeal was exhibited by the members of the association at their meetings in providing for the general interest and future development of the colony. Matters of town organization, providing for public improvements—public buildings, roads, bridges, etc.,—were earnestly discussed and undertaken with a spirit of enterprise that was worthy of success.

They were ambitious and desirous of having a newspaper published in the colony. A subscription was circulated, and quite a sum promised as a bonus and for its support, provided a paper was started and a printing-office established at Minnesota City. Mr. Haddock was a practical printer, and from the encouragement offered decided to make the attempt and bring on material for starting a

small weekly newspaper, to be called the "Minnesota City Standard." While east after his family, then living in the city of New York, he procured a press and material for a printing-office, which he brought along as far as Dubuque, where he was compelled to leave it in store for want of funds to pay freight. He never brought his press up the river.

They decided to build a town hall: the lumber and material was purchased and brought on the grounds, but owing to sickness and its attendant misfortunes the project was abandoned and the material used for other purposes. The public spirit of the settlers of this colony would have made the association a success if the location had been a proper one.

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## CHAPTER XXIX.

### LOOKING AROUND.

EARLY in the season prominent individuals from St. Paul visited the colony and made considerable effort to induce the members of the association to abandon Rolling Stone and locate themselves on the Minnesota river above St. Paul. It was said that Gov. Ramsey himself visited the colony for that purpose. Mr. Haddock was opposed to any movement of this kind, and his influence was such that no propositions for a change of locality were for a moment entertained.

Mr. Haddock and the members of the association were under the impression that Minnesota City was on a navigable portion of the Mississippi, although the officers of the steamboats refused to go up through Straight slough and establish a landing place for the colony. They early took into consideration the advantages that would arise from making Minnesota City the terminus of a wagon-road into the interior, between the Mississippi and Minnesota rivers.

A committee was appointed to explore the interior of the territory and "find the most feasible route for a wagon-road from Minnesota City to the Great Bend of the St. Peters river at the mouth of the Blue Earth," with instructions to note the quality of the land, water and timber observed on the route over which they might pass. The committee were each allowed a dollar a day to defray their expenses while on the survey.



The committee consisted of Robert Pike, jr., Isaac M. Noracong and William Stevens. They left the colony on the 26th of June and reached Traverse des Sioux on the 3d of July, where Mr. Pike was compelled to lay up from disability to travel. Mr. Noracong and Mr. Stevens completed the survey to the mouth of the Blue Earth river. Mr. Noracong stopped for a few days at Mankato to consult with the proprietors of the new town then but just starting at that place, and returned by another route across the country, accompanied by D. A. Robertson, one of the proprietors of Mankato. Mr. Pike and Mr. Stevens took passage on the Black Hawk down the Minnesota river to St. Paul, and from there to Wabasha prairie, and thence by land to Minnesota City.

Mr. Pike drew up a report of the expedition, which was indorsed by Mr. Stevens, and presented it to the association as the report of the committee. It was formally accepted. Neither this report made by Mr. Pike nor a copy of it can now be found. It is said to have been a fair description of the country over which they passed, and recommended the route by way of Faribault to Traverse des Sioux as practicable for either a wagon-road or for a railroad at a comparatively moderate expense.

On his return, Mr. Noracong presented his report recommending a more southern route to Mankato. He found that the report made by Mr. Pike had been adopted, the matter disposed of and the committee discharged. The report of Mr. Noracong was listened to, but no action was taken by the association.

The report, in the handwriting of Mr. Noracong, has been preserved by the Hon. O. M. Lord. The following was copied from it :

Started June 26, 1852, and went to Mr. Sweet's claim on Rolling Stone prairie, a distance of about twelve miles ; course south of west.

June 27, 7 A.M. From Sweet's took a south course one and a-half miles, and then a west course across a fine prairie to a grove of burr-oak timber, where we found a fine spring of water discharging itself in a sink ; this place was claimed by Mr. Hollyer. From thence took a west course and at noon came to a spring brook, and thence, after going a short distance came to a branch of the White Water running to the north. Continued traveling over burr-oak openings until 3 P.M., when we came to the head branch of the White Water, a fine brook sixteen feet in width and an average depth of two inches, rock bottom, good cool water to drink ; saw some trout. Went on three miles and crossed a tributary of the same. Here is a prairie eight miles wide east and west, and extending north and south as far as the eye can see. This prairie is in the valley of the White Water ; the rise of land on either side is about thirty feet.

We rose on the upland and continued west on burr-oak openings. The upland here is not as good as that back of the valley we crossed, being more gravelly. Traveled on through openings sometimes thickly set with hazel and tall grass. At sundown came to a small ravine, where we found good running water, bearing to the northeast, and well timbered with maple, ironwood, basswood, white and burr oak, and some willows.

Monday 28, 6:15 A.M. Started, and at 7:20 A.M., after about three miles' travel, came to a small stream of pure water running to the north through a splendid burr-oak opening, good timber and land of good soil. To the view north, this brook seems to run through a splendid prairie valley of great extent. We here saw a wolf catching mice or frogs. At 8:10 A.M. the openings run as far north as the eye can see. At 8:40 A.M. we came on an elevated prairie of first-rate quality; cannot see the extent to the southeast; six miles to the south there is timber; north the openings continue about ten miles. Soon after, we came to an elevated prairie where we could see a large valley to the south of us. This valley lies east and west. We continued west along the high lands of this valley, supposing it to be the head source of Root river; traveling bad; the face of the country being much broken and thickly set with oak underbrush and hazel. The most of the ravines we crossed were dry, and we became very thirsty for water; after some trouble we found a spring. There are several high mounds or bluffs standing in the midst of the valleys that we crossed, surrounded by good grass lands; they make a very imposing appearance and look beautiful in the distance. We have crossed some red-top meadow lands that would cut from three to four tons of hay to the acre. At 4 P.M. came to a stream of water bearing northward, which I called at the first glance the Wassioshie; overhead, where I am writing, is floodwood and grass in a tree eighteen feet above the water in the river. The bed of this stream is about sixty feet wide, and an average depth of water of about five inches. The majority of the company being in favor of following the stream down (not being satisfied that it is the Wassioshie), we went down on the east side some three or four miles, forded the river and pitched our tent, while Stevens and Pike went north to an elevated bluff to reconnoiter; from their observations they were willing to proceed west and leave the river.

Tuesday, June 29. A very foggy morning. Through the heavy mist we could hear the distant roar of a cataract, to the northward. We went over the bluffs to the northwest, through the dew and hazel-brush, until we mounted an elevated place where we could see some distance. On the south there was a heavy and extensive grove of timber; also on the west—the greatest quantity we have yet seen. We here saw two deer feeding at a distance. From this point we diverged from our course to the north and east, in search of the cataract. We descended about two miles to the river, and found a heavy tributary coming in from the west, and at the immediate junction was the fall of water we had heard. The water here falls about eight or ten feet in thirty or forty. Here is quite a curiosity. The water at its highest pitch rises some sixteen feet above where it now is. Altogether, the scenery is romantic.

This stream proved to be the Wassioshie river. In these waters I saw the largest brook-trout that I have ever seen in the Western waters, and also some fine black bass. The bluffs are about two-thirds as high as they are in the rear of Wabasha prairie. We here saw the tepees of the redmen for the first

time, but they were of ancient date. Returned to where we left our baggage, two miles to the southwest; then took a west course, and traveled, over some rolling prairie and broken woodland, about six miles, when we came to a tributary of the north branch of the Wassioshie running north. This is also a fine stream of water—sufficient to do a large business. Forded the stream and pitched tent. We left this place on our regular west course; traveling bad, the lands being thickly set with different kinds of brush and tall grass found on prairies. Came into what we called second-growth timber, very thickly set with underbrush of the yellow oak, hazel, plum, crab-apple, whitethorn, blackberry, briers, etc. Not being of a disposition to bolt the course, we penetrated into them, and continued on for some time; but, finding such bad traveling, we made a halt and mounted a tree to reconnoiter. Nothing was to be seen south and west but the same that we had been in for two or three hours. On the north of the west branch of the Wassioshie saw a large prairie about two miles distant. We struck north for the prairie. In this valley is a fine steam of water sixty feet wide, with four to six inches depth. Camped for the night. Saw some large suckers and black bass.

Wednesday, June 30. Took our course northwest to a high mound and reconnoitered. Found that the stream we camped on came from the west of north, and that the south side was thickly set with second-growth timber. Having found, by experience the day before, that we had better keep clear of that kind of traveling, we continued on the north side. After following up this branch about ten miles we struck north about a mile and came on an elevated prairie, that we could not reach its eastern extent with the naked eye, and appeared to extend some distance north. On the west we could not see its limits; it was dotted with groves of burr-oak and poplar. Starting west, we encountered some large tracts of hazel-brush, but continued to travel on until sundown. We here found ourselves on a dividing ridge without water or wood, and could not pitch our tent. In the west we could see timber in the distance, about eight miles off; in the south the timber opened so that we could see through, and discovered that there was a large prairie in that direction. We continued west through grass on the prairie often as high as the brim of my hat, and scarce any less than to my hips. The rain was falling and wind blowing strong from the northeast. Traveling on, by wind and compass, we came to a swamp, where we found some *good swamp water*. Taking a bucketful with us, we reached the timber, and penetrated a *awful* thicket, to get out of the wind. When we had pitched our tent and made a fire the watch said 11 o'clock, in a rainy night. We then had our suppers to cook, for we had eaten nothing from the time we took our breakfast except dry bread and raw pork.

Thursday, July 1. We made a start west. The water here evidently runs to the west and north. We found bad traveling through hazel-brush, swamps and wet meadows, with very high grass of bluejoint.

At 11 o'clock A.M. we came to a small stream of water running to the north and west, that proved to be a branch of the Cannon river. Continuing west through thickets thickly set with underbrush, consisting of prickly ash, blackberry-briers, greenbriers, grapevines and nettles, we struck a small stream of water, the bottoms of which were covered with heavy timber. Following this down, we came to a large stream, which proved to be the eastern branch of the Cannon river. On the west side was a large prairie. A majority of the company

being in favor of following down this stream, we at once forded it, and after going about two miles struck an Indian trail, which we traveled on down to the valleys, where we found a Frenchman who could talk good English. From him we learned that we were forty miles from Traverse des Sioux, and from thence eighteen miles to the Blue Earth. We then set out on the Indian trail for Traverse des Sioux, the trail leading through a fine valley of bottom prairie, in which flows the north branch of the Cannon river. On the north of this branch the whole country is heavy timbered to its source; the east side of the south branch is also heavy timbered with elm, maple, black-walnut, butternut, ash, etc. Between these forks are extensive rolling prairies, frequently dotted with burr-oak groves.

Traveling until nearly sunset, we pitched our tent on the bank of a beautiful lake. There are three beautiful small lakes on this branch, with pretty generally bold gravelly shores and clear water. There were numerous dead fish lying on the beach,—suckers, mullet, bass, pant and pickerel. On the north of the lakes is heavy timber; some on the south.

Friday July 2. Took an early start expecting to get through today. We traveled over a very broken country; not so bad, however, as to be unfit for cultivation. The country over which we passed in the forenoon is better adapted for stock, there being extensive meadow lands on the shores of the lakes.

After dinner we came to the head of the lakes, where we were some troubled in finding the right trail; the trail diverging off in different directions and very dim at this place. Soon after we succeeded in getting on the right trail we found ourselves in a different country altogether; it was up hill and down, through a swamp, over a knoll, through the brush, into a swamp, and so on until 3 p.m., when we came to a lake on our left, or south side; following along this lake, winding our way through a swamp connected with it, then through an island of timber and another swamp, and so on until we camped for the night, on the bank of the lake, in an Indian tepee. The water of the lake was so full of particles of something, that we were obliged to strain it for drinking or cooking purposes.

The lake was on the south and a large watery marsh on the north, the outlet of which we forded a short distance from our camp. All the dry land, from the place where we struck the lake, is heavy timbered and of good soil. I think three-fourths of the face of the country here is taken up with lakes and swamps.

On the north side of this lake there were several swamps connecting with it, and there was a plain visible embankment of stone and earth thrown across them; the stone were granite boulders or hard head, of which there were an abundance of this section of country. These embankments could not be easily mistaken, for some parts of them were four or five feet high, where the rocks could be seen on both sides; they answered for a road to cross on. At one place, where it appeared the outlet of the lake was, there were two streams of water flowing out of the lake into the marsh; here the boulders could be seen peering above the water in a direct line, from one point of high land to another, on the opposite side.

These stone have evidently been placed there by artificial means—of this there is no doubt, but by whom is not known and probably never will be.



This lake is very likely the head fountain of the Vermilion river, that empties into the Mississippi, some distance above the Cannon. On the shores of this lake there were dead fish of different kinds, showing that these waters were stocked with fish.

Saturday, July 3. Traveled over islands of timber, and through brush and morasses — the timber was of good quality — saw several small lakes and some sugar-houses. It was a rainy morning, and although it continued raining we kept on traveling, and came out of the timber into brush from two to eight feet high, overhanging the trail; the only way to follow a trail in such a case is to go where the feet go the easiest. We crossed several morasses and at last reached a bank, and down a hill we soon came out into the valley of the Minnesota, opposite Traverse des Sioux. We followed the trail down a short distance and then struck for the buildings on the other side of the river. We soon found ourselves in a morass, or quagmire, which had the appearance as if there was sulphur or salt water in it; did not admire the place and did not taste of the water. This continued from the bank nearly to the river.

At the river an Indian boy came to us with a canoe, but no paddles; we managed to cross safely by using small round sticks for paddles. We proceeded direct to the house of the Rev. Mr. Huggins, at the Mission, and took dinner at a house for the first time in seven days. Mr. Huggins and lady appeared to be very accommodating and refined people; they were good and kind to us, and will be remembered by me in time to come. This place has been long settled by civilized people.

Our provisions having run out, we here got a new supply. Stevens and myself started for the Blue Earth (Mr. Pike having a boil on his ankle, which affected the nerve to the knee and upward). We fell in with two young men that were going to where a Mr. Babcock was building a saw-mill, and reached the place about sundown. It was on the east side of the Minnesota, five miles above Traverse des Sioux. We were kindly received and put up for the night with them. Here fell in with a company of men that came the overland route from Jackson, Iowa, with two wagons and sixteen yoke of cattle, some cows, one horse, breaking plows, etc. They were twenty-one days coming through.

Sunday, July 4. We shouldered our packs and wended our way for the Blue Earth. The trail led through a fine prairie descending toward the river; the high lands to the east are heavy timbered. We diverged from the trail to get a drink, and in the bed of the stream we found stone coal. A specimen I brought home and tested by the fire, and found that it burned well.

Arrived at the town of Mankato about noon. Finding that the *boys* of this place were dressing a large turtle, we held on and took dinner with them. After dinner, started for the Blue Earth, a distance of two miles above the town, and soon reached the long looked-for locality. Traveled up some distance and then returned to the junction and down the Minnesota to Mankato, where we put up for the night. Having accomplished our purpose, we resolved to make a canoe on the following day, and return home by descending the Minnesota and Mississippi rivers.

Monday, July 5. Slept late; soon after getting up, news came that a steamboat was within hearing; soon after, the Black Hawk made her appearance. We at once resolved to return on the steamer. The Mankato company came on this boat. Learning where I was from and the business I was on,

they wished me to stop a few days with them. I accordingly did so. Stevens left with the boat for home.

Mankato is pleasantly situated on the east side of the Minnesota, directly on the great bend of the river and two miles below the confluence of the Blue Earth, on an elevated rise of ground, sufficiently above high-water mark, but not so much so as to make it inconvenient of access at any place for some distance up and down the river. It is located on a prairie of good quality of soil, well watered and plenty of timber. It has been regularly laid out by a competent surveyor. This place, from the observations I could make, must eventually be the great western terminus of a railroad from Minnesota city on the Mississippi to the waters of the Minnesota river. Having traveled through the country on two different routes, mostly, I find no obstacles in the way of any kind of a road from the former to the latter place. My impression is, that Mankato is decidedly the place for the termination of roads of any kind. The face of the country farther north is so thickly set with lakes and swamps and marshes, that it will cost a vast amount of money to erect bridges and build roads. The route for a road from Mankato to the southeast waters of the Cannon river is mostly on a dividing ridge and principally on prairie of good soil, well adapted for farming purposes and the raising of stock.

From Mankato to the La Seur river, which empties into the Blue Earth about two miles from its junction with Minnesota, is about six miles. The land is good for a road and is well timbered. After crossing the La Seur there is timber for about three-fourths of a mile, then it is prairie and opening to the southeast waters of the Cannon, where there is a prairie extending east out of reach of the naked eye.

I. M. NORA CONG.

The country over which we have traveled in the direction of Minnesota City is well adapted for roads, and I have no doubt, from what I have seen, that a good wagon-road may be made at a small expense from Mankato to Minnesota City. I also believe that the Mankato company would unite with the Minnesota City company in making the roads, and make, as their proposition, the western fifty miles.

D. A. ROBERTSON.

Mr. Robertson was one of the "Mankato Company"—one of the original town proprietors and first settlers in Mankato. It was through his influence that Mr. Noracong remained at that place to discuss the feasibility of opening a road. Mr. Robertson accompanied Mr. Noracong on his return across the country, and appended the above proposition to the report of Mr. Noracong to the association.

This committee was sent out by the association to explore the country and ascertain the feasibility of opening a wagon-road from Minnesota City to the great bend of the Minnesota river, and not for the purpose of making a preliminary survey for a proposed railroad route to St. Peters, as has been sometimes represented in newspaper articles. The real object was to establish a highway into the back country from the colony; to secure the advantages of a

main traveled route, when the country should be settled, and to make the terminus of the road at Minnesota City. The recommendation of the route for the purposes of a railroad was but an incidental part of the report.

The first mail route ever established across the country in the southern part of the territory was between Minnesota City and Traverse des Sioux, over nearly the same route traveled by this committee. The contractor was O. M. Lord, of Minnesota City.

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## CHAPTER XXX.

### REFLECTIONS.

THERE is no doubt but what Haddock and Murphy were conscientious in their acts when they located the colony at Rolling Stone. They reported to the association that their village site was on the Mississippi, and it was believed that such was the case. Mr. Haddock was the leading spirit of the organization, and apparently controlled it by a sort of mesmeric influence. For the first three months the colonists had almost unbounded confidence in their leader. He made a mistake when he assumed it to be a fact that Straight slough was a navigable channel; and, firm in his belief, he impressed the same idea on the settlers, and it was a year or two before they were fully convinced to the contrary.

Mr. Haddock assumed that the reason why Minnesota City was not made a landing-place for the steamboats was because the management of the boats was in the hands of men interested in rival town sites. This was believed by the settlers, because repeated applications had been made to have the boats land passengers at the colony during the high water, but without success; none would make the attempt.

When the flood in the river had subsided and the water was confined to its ordinary channels, and about the time that the report of the committee which had been sent to explore the back country was received, it was considered important that a landing should be established on Straight slough. The matter was freely discussed in the meetings of the association, and referred to a committee for investigation.

This committee, with other members equally interested in establishing the fact that navigation was practicable, made, as they supposed, a thorough survey of Straight slough, from its head, above Minnesota City, to its mouth, a short distance above Johnson's landing. A chart was drawn showing soundings, etc. The committee reported that there were no serious obstacles in the way, and that the slough was navigable for the largest boats running on the upper Mississippi.

At the time of this survey the slough next to the bluff, which empties into Straight slough nearly opposite Minnesota City, was given the name of Haddock slough, the name by which it is now known. Mr. Haddock had selected the shore next to the bluffs, above where Mr. Burley now lives, as a proper landing-place for immediate purposes. A landing-place on the slough below was selected for future improvement.

The committee were instructed to present the matter before the proprietors of the steamboat lines at Galena, by whom it was referred to Capt. Smith. Notwithstanding their chart demonstrated the feasibility of a free passage through Straight slough, Capt. Smith considered the route impracticable; and, as it was charged against him that his opposition to it was because of his holding an interest on Wabasha prairie, he consented to allow his own boat, the Nominee, to make a trial trip under the pilotage of the committee.

The success of the committee thus far was duly reported to the Association. So confident were the colonists of the arrival of the steamboat that many of them went down to the landing at Wabasha prairie to meet the boat, while the whole settlement prepared to give it a joyful welcome. For this trip the Nominee was given in charge of the first clerk, with instructions to go through the slough, if possible, without delay. The boat, with Mr. Brook as captain, arrived at Johnson's about noon on Sunday. As the trip was a holiday excursion the settlers on the prairie were invited to make a social visit to the colony.

The Nominee started up Straight slough under the guidance of the committee. After ascending for a mile or so the boat struck a bar and came to a sudden stop. By some oversight this obstruction had not been noted on the chart. After repeated attempts to pass this barrier without success, the officers of the boat decided that Straight slough was not navigable by the Nominee at that stage of water.



This failure was a great disappointment to the settlers, both at Minnesota City and at Wabasha prairie. The boat swung around and steamed back to Wabasha prairie, and, after discharging the excursionists, started up the river under the guidance of her own pilot.

The failure of the Nominee to go through Straight slough was a serious blow to the colony. The ideal maritime port of Mr. Haddock was unfortunately at least six miles from any practicable steamboat landing. Still the colonists were not wholly disheartened. Many of them believed that the slough might be made practicably navigable by opening a passage over the bar, the only obstruction that was supposed to exist. During the following winter the colonists built a large log building on the bank of the slough opposite Minnesota City, which they designed for a warehouse and landing-place. A road was surveyed across the bottom, but never improved. No passengers or freight were ever landed there. No attempt was ever made to improve the navigation of Straight slough.

The extreme high water was followed by an extreme low stage of water in the river. The summer of 1852 was hot and dry, and the miasma eliminated from the sloughs and large marshes in the immediate vicinity of Minnesota City rendered that locality particularly unhealthy. Serious bilious diseases afflicted the settlers in the colony. They were mostly from the Eastern States, unacclimated, unprotected by suitable dwellings, and a large majority of them incompetent and unsuited for pioneer life. A few deaths occurred early in the season, and exaggerated accounts of the sickness and mortality at Minnesota City were put in circulation and prevented many from locating there. The most common disease was intermittent and remittent fevers.

There were no regular medical practitioners belonging to the association or living on the west side of the river; domestic treatment and patent medicines were generally depended on. Quinine was quite extensively relied upon in these malarious diseases. One of the colonists was attacked with intermittent fever, for which a neighbor recommended quinine. He sent for a pound or two of quinine by a friend who had business at St. Paul. From insufficient funds only four ounces were procured. When the bill of \$20 was presented the exorbitant charges of the St. Paul druggist was strongly condemned. The neighbor who had prescribed the article

was called in to dose out the medicine, and he explained that it was a dram or two he had recommended him to send for instead of a pound or two. "The Squire" said, in relating the incident, "I knew nothing about the stuff—any way, it was no serious mistake, because it was needed in the settlement, and the neighbors took it off my hands without any pecuniary loss."

It was said that not a settler in the colony escaped an attack of fever and ague. Robert Pike, Jr., in a letter published in 1854, says, "Although most were prostrated by sickness, only fourteen deaths occurred (*in 1852*) and a majority of these were young children. The wonder is that the mortality was not greater."

Among the deaths which occurred was that of Mrs. Haddock, the wife of the president of the association. Mr. Haddock went down to New York city and brought her here to make her a home in the colony he had labored so hard to build up. She arrived on the 13th of July and died on the 24th of August.

After the death of his wife Mr. Haddock became disheartened and completely discouraged. Many of the settlers were compelled to leave because they could find nothing to do by which to earn a living. The most of them were mechanics from the city of New York, and they went down the river to find employment. Although the association maintained its organization, it was no longer attractive to Mr. Haddock. It had apparently accomplished all that could be expected from it. With a large party of his friends Mr. Haddock, left the colony on the 11th of September and went down the river. He stopped for awhile at Dubuque, and moved from there to Anamosa, Jones county, Iowa, where he engaged in publishing a newspaper, using the press and material designed for a printing-office in Minnesota City.

Although the organization was kept up in the colony during the next year, but comparatively few members of the association remained to become citizens of this county.

Quite a number of the members of the association lived on their village lots in Minnesota City until after the survey of public lands in this part of the territory. Several of them then made claims of the locality they were occupying according to the divisions made by the government surveyors, without regard to the previous divisions made by Mr. Haddock.

The town site of the Western Farm and Village Association was never made a matter of record. The whole village plot was ab-

sorbed by claims which were pre-empted as homesteads by their resident claimants. The plot of the original village of Minnesota City was thus wiped out—swept entirely away. The name has been preserved for the locality, and a more diminutive and modern village has grown up under it, on what was originally the claim of Israel M. Noracong.

The original village plot was pre-empted by T. K. Allen, A. A. Gilbert, H. B. Waterman, Robert Pike, Jr., James Wright, O. M. Lord, Hiram Campbell, S. E. Cotton and D. Q. Burley, all members of the association. Each of them had held claims in other localities, which were abandoned to enable them to share in the spoils of the dead metropolis of the colony.

H. B. Waterman and family have continuously occupied the same locality he settled upon in 1852, when he first came into the colony. When Mr. Waterman came to Minnesota City he built a very comfortable house, a part of it of logs and a part of frame and boards. This he inhabited for several years. After the government survey was made he selected this locality as a homestead, and claimed a quarter-section of land in the vicinity, which he pre-empted after the land-office was opened at Winona.

With the exception of a large and comfortable dwelling-house and a good barn, which stand in a beautiful grove on a slightly elevation, with a small field of cultivation, but little improvement was made on this claim until within a few years past. The table on which it lies was covered with groves of oak. As this timber is cut away and the clearing enlarged a fine farm is becoming developed.

Mr. Waterman was a lawyer by profession when he joined the colony, but he never practiced his profession in Minnesota. He had but little taste for agricultural pursuits, and but little inclination to make it an occupation. He made the farm his home without making the cultivation of the soil his business.

In November, 1852, Mr. Waterman was appointed by Gov. Ramsey one of the justices of the peace for Wabasha county. He was subsequently elected to the same office, and held the official position of justice of the peace over twenty years for Winona county, in the town of Rolling Stone, where he resided. He was also elected judge of probate at the election in the fall of 1853.

The first case on his docket in 1852 was Jacob S. Denman *vs.* individual members of the association. This was a matter which

grew out of the claim difficulty already mentioned. These members of the association went on to Denman's claim, destroyed his fences and burned his rails, with the intent to drive him off the claim. Denman refused to leave, and sued them for damages to his property. The matter had been commenced before Squire Allen, but when Squire Waterman received his commission the case was discontinued and again brought on before the new justice of the peace, where it was settled by the members of the association paying the costs of prosecution and the damages assessed.

Robert Pike, Jr., made a claim among the village lots of the colony on the same table on which the school-building now stands. He here used his pre-emption right and made a farm of part of the original village. A part of this claim is still in possession of Mrs. Pike, his widow.

Mr. Pike came to Rolling Stone early in May, 1852, and at once became prominently active in the enterprises of the association to develop the resources of the country and build up the colony. His eccentric genius and zealous efforts made him popular in the settlement. Soon after his arrival he was appointed surveyor for the colony, explored a road to the Minnesota river. He was chosen as a proper person to be appointed postmaster. He was elected justice of the peace, served as county commissioner and as county surveyor. During his whole life he was active in all of his public duties.

Robert Pike, Jr., died about the middle of April, 1874. At the time of his death he was interested in an effort to start a colony in the vicinity of Lake Kampeska, Dakota Territory. His widow is yet a resident of Minnesota City. One of the two children who came here with her in 1852 died many years ago. The other is the wife of Frank D. Stewart, living in the town of Rolling Stone.

Mr. Pike was in many respects a very remarkable man. Naturally ingenious, he made mechanical improvements a study. On most of the questions of the day, religious and political, he espoused the radical side. Among his many friends, his special peculiarities were overshadowed by the open-handed generosity of the man toward his fellow-man.

As a specimen of his eccentricity, his business card has been copied from the "Winona Republican," as regularly advertised in 1856, as follows :



"ROBERT PIKE, who writes this ditty,  
Lives at Minnesota City ;  
Is Postmaster, Magistrate,  
Buys and sells Real Estate,  
Conveyancer and County Surveyor,  
(The City's small and needs no Mayor).  
Sectarian rules he dares resist,  
And thinks Christ was a Socialist.  
Loving mankind and needing dimes,  
He waits to serve them at all times."

When disaffected members of the association decided to abandon the colony, O. M. Lord purchased their interest in such of the village lots as were in the vicinity of where he resided ; and after the government survey, when the village plot was comparatively abandoned, he made a claim of the quarter-section on which he was living and pre-empted it. The village lots surveyed by Mr. Haddock for the association, that were included in this claim, are a part of the homestead on which the Hon. O. M. Lord now resides.

The first claim selected by Mr. Lord was before he joined the association, while on the first exploration made into the country back from the Mississippi. This he abandoned for another about three miles above Minnesota City, in what is now known as Deering's Valley, where he then proposed to establish a stock-farm. On account of its isolated situation he did not move his family there, but located them in the settlement or village. Like many others, he also made other selections of good claims which were marked with his name.

From the time Mr. Lord came here in the spring of 1852 to the present time he has been prominently before the public, in very many instances intimately connected with events that make up the history of Winona county. Owing to his habitual modest reserve, no record of these instances has ever been compiled for reference. It is indeed questionable whether a connected biographical sketch of this pioneer settler has ever been given to the public. Advantage of a long-time acquaintance and personal friendship has been the source of the following memoranda of events in history with which he has been connected.

## CHAPTER XXXI.

### PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS.

HON. O. M. LORD was a native of the State of New York; born in Wyoming county in 1826. In 1837 he moved with his father's family to Michigan. He attended school winters until he was about sixteen, after which he attended a select school for about three months. His education has since that been acquired by private study in active life. His younger days were spent on a farm and in sometimes assisting his father in his blacksmith shop.

Mr. Lord was married in 1848, and settled on a farm. He was elected town clerk, and was *ex-officio* school inspector for two years. In the spring of 1852 he sold his farm in Lapeer county, Michigan, and came to Minnesota, where he arrived May 2. He brought on his family, a wife and two children, on July 16. He brought with him all of his household goods, a span of horses and farming tools, intending to make farming his exclusive business. His horses were the first brought into the colony.

Instead of settling on a claim, as he had at first designed, Mr. Lord located himself in the village of the colony at Minnesota City. He bought several village lots and built a house. Having acquired some knowledge of blacksmithing when young, he bought the tools of a blacksmith and carried on the business for a year or two, his shop being the only blacksmith shop in the county during that time. In 1852 he shod the first span of horses ever brought into this county by a settler, and the first horses ever shod here. The shoes were brought from La Crosse. They belonged to Hon. William H. Stevens. In the spring of 1853 he shod fourteen horses for Wm. Ashley Jones, government surveyor.

July 2, 1853, Mr. Lord was appointed coroner for Fillmore county. This appointment, unsolicited, was conferred by Gov. Gorman, who had recently assumed his official position.

At the election held in the fall of 1853 Mr. Lord was elected as representative to the territorial legislature from this district. The session was held from January 4 to March 4, 1854.

Among the acts of which he secured the passage were the original

charter for the Transit railroad, the division of Fillmore county and creating of Winona county, and the establishment of the county seat at what is now the city of Winona. The present boundaries of Winona county were defined by Mr. Lord, and submitted to Mr. Huff and other citizens of the village of Winona for their approval. He also secured the passage of a memorial for a post-route from Minnesota City to Traverse des Sioux.

In 1854 Mr. Lord built the first saw-mill in the county at Minnesota city. In 1855 he was awarded a contract for carrying the mail from Minnesota city to Traverse des Sioux, and carried the mails for about two years — a part of the time semimonthly. This was the first post-route across the country.

In 1857 or 1858 Mr. Lord was appointed by Gov. Medavy commissioner for selecting land for the Transit Railroad Company. He was also appointed by Gov. Medavy, October 12, 1857, as a notary public. These appointments were unsolicited by Mr. Lord. In 1859 he was a candidate for the legislature, but was defeated by Judge Orlando Stevens.

When questioned as to his war record, he replied, "I fought, bled and died for my country by able-bodied substitute during the war — price \$600."

Mr. Lord moved back to Michigan, and lived near Kalamazoo from 1861 to 1864, when he returned to Minnesota, and again took up his residence at Minnesota City. He was a candidate for the legislature in 1871, and was defeated by seven votes by H. A. Covey. In 1873 he was elected to the legislature, and served at the next session.

On September 28, 1875, Mr. Lord was appointed county superintendent of schools, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Rev. David Burt, who had been appointed state superintendent of public instruction. He has been elected continuously to the position of county superintendent of schools since that time, and is yet serving the people in that capacity. He was president of the last annual meeting of county superintendents, held at St. Paul about January 1, 1883.

Mr. Lord has always taken an active interest in popular education, and in addition to his other official positions has been almost continuously one of the school committee in Minnesota City since the first school was started there in 1852. He is at present director of the district. He has been a member of the town board of the

town of Rolling Stone for the past twelve years, and is now chairman of board of supervisors. Mr. Lord was made a Mason in 1862. He never united with any other organization. If circumstances permitted, he would take more pride and pleasure in stock-raising and cultivation of small fruit than in any other pursuit.

Hiram Campbell settled on his village lot and built a house, which he occupied with his family for several years. With this as his place of residence, he made a claim and pre-empted a homestead which included a portion of the village lots of the colony. This claim is now known as the "Campbell Farm." It joins the farms of O. M. Lord and James Kennedy. The present farm house is of brick.

Hiram Campbell has been dead many years. His widow, with his family, owned and occupied the farm until about two years ago, when she sold out and moved west. With other branches of farming Mr. and Mrs. Campbell took a great deal of interest in the cultivation of fruit, particularly of different varieties of apples, which they were very successful in growing.

When David Densmore and John Shaw came to Rolling Stone they brought with them a large supply of apple-seeds which they procured from the State of Maine. These seeds were planted on their village lots. The lot of Mr. Densmore was on the land now owned by O. C. Tucker. The lot of Mr. Shaw was on the Campbell farm. Both Mr. Densmore and Mr. Shaw died early in the summer of 1852, and their lots passed into other hands. Mr. Densmore left his nursery for the general benefit of the colonists.

Mr. Campbell assumed charge of the lot of Mr. Shaw and started a nursery of fruit-trees from the seed sown on it. From this little nursery, started by Mr. Campbell on his own claim, sprang some of the finest varieties of apples that have ever been known in Minnesota.

John Nicklin, with his family, settled on his lot selected by number in New York. His location was on the table above where Troust's mill recently stood. He built a log house, lived here two or three years and made a claim of forty acres among the village lots. He also had a farm claim in the valley about two miles above the village. To hold them both he pre-empted the farm claim, and his son pre-empted a part of the village property. He lived on his farm for a number of years, when he sold out and moved back to New York, where he died a few years ago. None of his family are now living in this county. A son resides in Dakota Territory.



George Foster pre-empted a forty of village lots ; sold out and moved to Winona. He left there and moved south. None of his family are now living in this county.

Other members of the association besides Mr. Denman and W. H. Coryell made claims below Minnesota City. Nearly the whole upper prairie was at one time claimed by the colonists, although unimproved.

P. D. Follett made a claim adjoining the farm now occupied by Mr. Charles Vila. He built a log house and occupied it for two or three years, when he sold out and left the county.

William T. Luark made a claim along the bluffs below Mr. Denman's, where Mr. Colman now lives. He improved this by building a log-house and making some cultivation, and held it for several years. He moved to Winona, where he opened the first wagon-shop started in the county. The first wagon was made by Mr. Luark in the spring of 1855. About ten years ago he moved to Milwaukee, where he died after a residence there of a year or two.

John Iams also made a claim along the bluffs, the next below that made by Mr. Luark. He built a log-house and occupied this locality two or three years, and then moved to Winona, and after a few years' residence there left the county and went into the western part of the state to reside. Mr. Iams was the first sheriff appointed or elected to serve in that office in this part of the territory. He was the first sheriff in Fillmore county in 1853.

John C. Laird came to Wabasha prairie about the last of August, 1852, to attend upon Abner S. Goddard during his last sickness. After the death of Mr. Goddard, which occurred on the 11th of September, he decided to remain and make it his future home.

Mr. Laird was a citizen of La Crosse at the time he came up to help his sister in the care of her sick husband. It was on her account that he changed his place of residence and came to Minnesota, where he has ever since resided. He was deputy register of deeds for La Crosse county. The register elected was a resident of a distant part of the county, and, not wishing to change his location, Mr. Laird was deputized to act for him and receive the emoluments of the position.

In the winter and spring previous Mr. Laird had visited Wabasha prairie, but never selected any special location as a claim. After he had decided to settle here he explored the country until in October, when, observing that the east "eighty" of the original Stevens

claim was unoccupied, and without improvements of any kind, he was induced to take possession of it as an abandoned claim. Mr. Laird quietly procured the necessary material, and before the settlers were aware of his intention, they were surprised to see a snug and comfortable-looking shanty on "that lower eighty of Stevens's." This shanty stood about where Laird Norton & Co's stables now stand,—on the west side of Chestnut street, between Second and Third streets.

As soon as the circumstance became known, H. C. Gere made application to the members of the claim club for aid to remove the trespasser on the land relinquished to him by Silas Stevens. Some of the members of the club came together and called on Mr. Laird to learn why he had built the shanty and to ascertain if he really intended to jump Gere's claim.

Mr. Laird informed them that he had taken possession of "that eighty" because there was no one occupying it—nothing to indicate that any one had possession of it, and informed them that his shanty was the only improvement on the claim. This self-constituted claim committee decided to let Mr. Gere take care of his own affairs if he had got into trouble from his own mismanagement. He was then holding other claims.

Mr. Laird completed his shanty on Saturday evening, and, supposing that he had possession safe enough, stayed contentedly at Mrs. Goddard's, because it was Sunday and a day of rest generally observed by the settlers. It chanced to be the day on which Elder Hamilton had made an appointment to preach at Mrs. Goddard's shanty, and there the settlers assembled to listen to one of his best sermons.

Taking a great interest in the subject of the discourse, Mr. Laird for the time forgot about his recently acquired earthly possession, and gave his undivided attention to the sermon of the elder. After the service was over and the audience began to disperse, he cast his eyes toward his new shanty, not fifty rods away, and discovered Henry C. Gere on its roof. Accompanied by Wm. H. Stevens, and followed more deliberately by Elder Hamilton and his whole congregation, he rushed toward his unprotected claim improvement and found that Gere had jumped the shanty, if not the claim.

Taking advantage of the security from observation afforded while the attention of the settlers were engaged by Elder Hamilton,

Mr. Gere had taken a load of his household goods to the shanty and taken possession of it.

On reaching the locality Mr. Laird found the shanty occupied; a table with a few dishes and a chair or two were on one side of the room, and on the other a cook-stove, on which was a tea-kettle, a pot of potatoes, and a frying-pan with a slice of ham ready for cooking. Mrs. Gere was comfortably seated in a rocking-chair in front of the stove, waiting to touch a match to the kindling-wood as soon as the stove-pipe was put in place, and Mr. Gere was on the roof cutting a hole for it to pass through.

Mr. Laird called to Gere to come down, but he refused, replying, "You are too late, for I now hold possession." Laird and Stevens then tore off the boards from the roof, and notwithstanding Gere's resistance, caught him by the legs and dragged him to the ground. They then proceeded to carry the stove and other furniture outside, except the rocking-chair, which Mrs. Gere occupied, and very composedly maintained possession of the roofless shanty.

Elder Hamilton sedately seated himself on one of the chairs ejected from the cabin and calmly watched the proceedings. Occasionally a quiet smile would illumine his dignified expression as he observed the demonstrative movements of the noisy and excited settlers, who but a very few minutes before had been model representatives of a moral, intellectual and order-loving community. Feelings of partisanship were exhibited by loud expressions of opinion in emphatic language rather than by active participation. Men and women espoused the cause of one side or the other. Some threats were passed, but no serious collisions occurred.

Mrs. Goddard took a firm and determined stand in support of the rights of her brother to the claim. While Laird and Stevens were tearing or knocking the boards from the roof on which Gere stood, she observed a second load of Gere's furniture approaching from the east; they had gone down the prairie and come up along the river. Rushing toward the team and brandishing a cudgel, which she caught up on the first alarm, Mrs. Goddard ordered the driver to stop, and, taking the horses by the bridles, led them back across the line of the claim and told the driver to leave as soon as possible. Without a show of resistance the teamster drove off. The team belonged to John Evans. In speaking of the occurrence afterward, Frank Curtiss, the driver, said it was not the first time he had been

captured by a woman, and he did not propose to get into a quarrel with Mrs. Goddard.

It was charged that Elder Hamilton had a foreknowledge of Gere's design, and had selected one of his most interesting and lengthy sermons to give him ample opportunity to accomplish his purpose unmolested. "Aunt Catharine" says "that was not so. Elder Hamilton and John C. were always warm friends, but Elder Ely knew all about it, for he kept going out every few minutes as if to see if a steamboat was coming. I know Elder Hamilton was on John's side that day, because he beckoned to me, and when I went over to where he was sitting on one of the chairs he said, 'The boys had better tear the shanty down now they are at it.' I told the boys and they tore the whole thing down without disturbing Mrs. Gere, and left her sitting in her rocking-chair on the bare prairie."

As soon as the shanty was demolished the excitement subsided and all started for their homes, leaving Laird and Gere to watch each other and hold the claim. Mrs. Gere went to her own shanty and sent her husband his supper, while Mrs. Goddard bountifully furnished rations for John C., who stood guard over his promiscuous pile of lumber.

The night was a cold, disagreeable one; a chilly west wind swept over the bleak prairie and compelled the lonely, unsocial watchmen to keep in motion to preserve proper circulation. Although each had a blanket in which they wrapped themselves, Mr. Laird formed a windbreak of boards. Mr. Gere solicited the loan of a few boards for a like protection, but Laird objected to his lumber being used for such purposes.

Finding it impossible to get any rest while so uncomfortable, Gere called to Laird about midnight and said — "I have a proposition to make to you which I think will be of advantage to both of us. I have no more confidence in your honesty than I have in men generally, but I believe you will keep your word when you make a promise. Now, suppose we agree to let this claim matter remain just where it is, without either of us doing anything until tomorrow; we can then go home and get some sleep." Mr. Laird was amused at the proposition, but did not object to it. The two men solemnly pledged themselves to leave the claim undisturbed until the next morning, and bidding each other—"good night" in more social tones than they had previously observed, they left the locality.



Both parties made their appearance at sunrise, and hostilities were resumed. Mr. Laird rebuilt his shanty, but moved to another location nearer the river and a little below, on what is now block 5 in Laird's addition. Gere tried for two or three months to obtain possession, but without effect, the cold weather interfering with any active measures. On the night of January 24, 1853, while Mr. Laird was temporarily absent from the prairie, his shanty was torn down and the lumber destroyed—chopped in pieces. Mr. Laird built another cabin on the same ground. It is said that this destruction of the claim-shanty was effected by a young man employed by Gere for that purpose, who received a hundred pounds of flour for his services.

Satisfied that it would not be possible for him to get possession and hold it against the opposition he had to contend with, Mr. Gere appealed to Justice Burns for aid to remove the trespasser, feeling confident that a select jury would award him his rights.

There were at this time two justices in this vicinity, George M. Gere, on Wabasha prairie, and John Burns, at the mouth of Burns valley. Jabez McDermott, of Wabasha prairie, was constable. In February, H. C. Gere sued John C. Laird before John Burns, Esq., for trespass, etc., to get possession of the claim. The trial by jury came off in March. This was the first jury trial ever held in this part of the territory—the first jury ever called in what is now Winona county. The court was held in the upper part of the "Viets House" (the old Winona House), which was then unfinished, Squire Burns having adjourned the court from his office at his house to this place to accommodate all parties interested. The trial was considered an important event by the settlers.

Mr. Gere engaged the professional services of Mr. Flint, a lawyer living in La Crosse, and of Andrew Cole, of Wabasha prairie. Mr. Cole was then the only practicing attorney living on the west side of the river. Mr. Laird had for counsel and management of his defense, a lawyer from La Crosse by the name of French. The jury impaneled to try the case was George W. Clark, Scott Clark, O. S. Holbrook, William Hewitt, W. H. Coryell and Hiram Campbell.

This being the first important case brought before Squire Burns, his inexperience in his official position made it necessary for him to seek advice as to his own duties. He selected as his confidential adviser the "home attorney." He was personally acquainted with

Mr. Cole, and had great confidence in his opinions of law. This peculiarity in the case excited some comment from outsiders,— Mr. Cole being attorney for the plaintiff, but no charges were ever made that any improper or unjust proceedings were entertained by the court. Notwithstanding the very marked eccentricities exhibited by the squire, his court and official position was duly respected. His comical expressions and blundering style of doing business afforded considerable amusement during the trial, and were subjects for many a hearty laugh for a long time afterward.

About two days were spent in the examinations of witnesses and speech-making by the attorneys before the case was submitted to the jury. After due deliberation it was ascertained that there was no probability of the jury agreeing, and they were discharged. The court adjourned until the next Monday, March 14, at which time another jury was impaneled and the trial of the case again repeated.

In the first trial the jury stood five for the defendant and one for the plaintiff. The one who stood out against his fellow jurors was Hiram Campbell. The jury on the second trial was John Iams, S. A. Houck, H. B. Waterman, Wm. L. Luark, S. D. Putnam, and Elijah Silsbee, all residents of Minnesota City except the last. After about the same amount of time consumed as with the first trial the case was given to the jury, and at about 11 o'clock at night, March 16, the jury decided unanimously in favor of the plaintiff, Henry C. Gere.

The next morning Mr. Laird and Wm. H. Stevens started for La Crosse, and took the lawyers home. The condition of the ice in the river would not permit of delay—even then traveling on the river was unsafe. The ice in the river appeared as if it might break up in a few days. It did leave the river in front of the prairie on the 20th of March.

Mr. Laird left the claim in charge of Mrs. Goddard to hold until his return, not supposing that any movement would be made before that time. Mrs. Goddard, with a young lady, Miss Salina Kellogg, of La Crosse, who was up on a visit, accordingly took possession of the shanty, with a firm determination to hold the fort.

The suit had been decided in Gere's favor, and he became anxious to get the claim into his possession before Mr. Laird should have an opportunity to appeal to a higher court, as he had given notice that he should do on his return. Under the management of

Mr. Cole, his attorney, judgment was entered up against Mr. Laird on the justice's docket, and an attachment issued to take possession of his property for the payment of the costs in the suit. A writ of restitution was also issued, under which it was supposed possession would be acquired and the claim held.

The constable, McDermott, was friendly and in full sympathy with Mr. Laird, and was also a boarder with Mrs. Goddard. Before the papers were placed in his hands, he notified Mrs. Goddard of the proceedings, and arranged with her a plan of defense. He aided them to procure material and barricade the building, so as to resist an assault if Gere and his friends attempted to take forcible possession of the shanty. It was supposed that they were provided with firearms. Being forewarned, they had the courage to believe that they would be able to resist the officer of the law, with his consent, and hold Gere and his friends at bay until the return of Mr. Laird from La Crosse.

Learning from McDermott that the yoke of oxen would be attached when they came across the river from their work, Mrs. Goddard sent for the cattle and had them brought over and chained to a post by the side of the shanty, while the constable had business elsewhere.

When the writ was placed in McDermott's hands he went down to the claim. As he advanced, Mrs. Goddard warned him that if anyone attempted to come near the shanty it would be at their own peril. The constable withdrew to a safe distance and apparently waited for a more favorable opportunity to perform his official duties. Neither Mr. Gere or any of his friends ventured within short range of the cabin where Mrs. Goddard and Miss Kellogg stood guard, and, to the surprise of the settlers, successfully resisted the execution of the law and boldly defied any one who should dare molest them.

These two women held the claim and retained possession of the oxen until Mr. Laird returned from La Crosse with the money to defray the expenses of the suit, which had been the principal object of his trip. He at once paid the cost and appealed the case to the United States district court. The writ of restitution was never enforced.

Of the proceedings in the district court, nothing official can be learned. It is said that, from some cause, judgment in the justice's court was suspended and the case dismissed. Mr. Laird was never

afterward disturbed in his possession of the claim. It is now known as Laird's Addition.

Although Mr. Gere never made any actual attempts to obtain possession of the claim, he several times threatened suits for its recovery. Mr. Laird soon found that a little money would stop all proceedings — less than the fee of a lawyer to defend the case. Gere consulted about every lawyer that located here for the next two or three years. He was among the first clients of Hon. Judge Wilson, when he came here in 1855. Mr. Wilson, then a young lawyer, became interested in the story of Gere, and, considering it an important case, at once commenced suit against Mr. Laird. He was greatly surprised a day or two after to learn from his client that, on account of a satisfactory arrangement with Mr. Laird, he wished to stop all proceedings against him. The lawyers never shared in these periodical settlements. When Gere again ran short of funds, he again called on his attorney to bring suit against Laird, but Mr. Wilson indignantly refused to have anything further to do with the case.

Mr. Laird became a permanent settler on Wabasha prairie, where he was prominently identified with public and private enterprises which tended to the development of the resources of the county. Although for many years Mr. Laird gave his attention to the cultivation of a large farm in the eastern part of Olmsted county, and lived there with his family a portion of each year, he has maintained an interest in Winona county and occupied his residence in the city of Winona.

John C. Laird now lives on the same claim he "jumped" from Henry C. Gere, on Wabasha prairie, in the fall of 1852. His present residence is within two blocks of where his claim-shanties stood while contesting possession with Mr. Gere. This is the only instance where any one of the original claimholders of land on Wabasha prairie, now the city of Winona, is living on the claim he held in 1852, and with one exception Mr. Laird is the only one in the city living on land which they held prior to the sale of public lands in 1855. A part of the original claim of Captain Smith, claim No. 1, was pre-empted by John Keyes. His widow and family are yet residents of that locality.

In the spring of 1853 Mr. Laird built quite a stylish and comfortable one-story house, with two wings, on his claim, and made it his headquarters. He brought up a breaking-team of three yoke



of large oxen and two large breaking-plows. His reason for having two plows to one team was, that he found it economical to send his plows to Galena by steamboat for repairs — to keep his team at work an extra plow was necessary. This team he kept busy breaking for the settlers by the acre during the season, under the management of A. B. Smith.

Mr. Laird started the first livery stable in the county of Winona. The heavy horses and wagons he furnished for hire in 1853 would hardly represent the business if compared with the dashing turn-outs now furnished from the "liveries" in the city of Winona.

Although not strictly the first man to deal in lumber, Mr. Laird was the first to commence the business and establish a lumber-yard for the retail of lumber as a regular business occupation. He commenced the lumber business a little above where the sawmill of Laird, Norton & Co. now stands. His little retail yard was the nucleus from which the vast lumber establishments and immense business of Laird, Norton & Co. has been developed. John C. Laird was once a member of this firm, but withdrew from it many years ago. It was through him and his influence that many of our best citizens came into this county.

In the summer of 1852 Enos P. Williams, who made the claim next east of that held by Beecher Gere, traded it to B. B. Healy for three or four village lots in La Crosse. Mr. Williams had made no improvement except a pretense of a garden. He was then living in La Crosse, where he remained for three or four years, after which he came up the river and settled in this county, in what is now the town of Utica, where he yet resides.

Mr. Healy built quite a comfortable house on the Williams claim and placed a man on it to hold possession. The claimkeeper neglected his charge and it was jumped by Rufus Emerson, who was employed by Andrew Cole. Mr. Healy contested the matter, and after a suit or two at law recovered possession of the claim and then disposed of it to Rev. H. S. Hamilton, who bought it for some of his relatives, John I. and Harvey Hubbard. It was then called the John I. Hubbard claim, and is now known as Hubbard's Addition to the plat of Winona.

But few claims were made in the southern part of what is now Winona county during the season of 1852. Two or three were selected on Pine creek, one or two along the river and in the valleys.

Hamilton McCollum settled on the river in the lower part of the

county. His house was for a year or two a favorite stopping-place for travelers by land on the trail between Winona and La-Crosse.

James Campbell, a Scotchman, settled in Cedar creek valley three or four miles from its mouth. William and Robert Campbell came not long after. Mr. Campbell now holds a large amount of land in that vicinity, where he yet resides.

Leonard Johnson lived with W. B. Bunnell for a year or two, and then with Frank Wilson started a wood-yard at Johnson's Point, below the present village of Homer. Mr. Johnson is yet a resident of the county, living in the town of Pleasant Hill, on a farm selected by him in an early day.

Harry Herrick, for many years a man of all work for Bunnell, made a claim in Burns valley, about two miles above its mouth, where the road crosses the stream. He built a small log cabin, which is yet standing and is a part of the old building on the upper side of the road, east of the bridge.

Mr. Herrick held this claim for a year or two, when he sold it and went back to live with Bunnell, where he died two or three years after. The claim was purchased by Rev. Edward Ely, and was long known as the "Ely claim." It is now a part of the farm of Mr. Henry Bitner.

William Hewett came into the county in the latter part of this season and made a claim in Burns valley, next above Herrick. He built a frame house near the big spring next to the road and settled there with his family. This house was burned down several years after. A log house now occupies the same site. Mr. Hewett occupied the locality for two or three years and then sold out and left this part of the country.

Joseph S. Wilson selected his claim in Burns valley, next above Hewett's, where Charles Miller now has a stock-farm. He built his claim shanty about where the present farm buildings stand, near the spring. His first shanty was only designed to show that the claim was "occupied by a settler." He left his claim in the care of Roderick Kellogg until the next spring, when he returned with his family, built a comfortable house and opened up a farm, which he cultivated for three or four years. He then sold his farm and moved into Winona, where he carried on the business of harness-making until about 1880, when he went west and located in the territory of Dakota. Mr. Wilson was a well-known citizen of the

county. The town of Wilson was given its name from him, he being one of its oldest settlers and the best known in that locality.

The same season that Mr. Wilson brought his family to live in Burns valley, a German by the name of Schabe, or Schape, made a claim above Wilson's. He built a log house near the spring by the side of the road and lived there until his death, ten or twelve years ago. This house was the last one in that direction until the spring of 1854.

The log house built by Mr. Schape was standing until within the past year. On Christmas day, 1882, the writer passed the locality and found the present owner of the property tearing down the old house. The timber of which it was composed was apparently sound; the oak logs were hard and dry; the oak shingles, or more properly shakes, were sound on the under side, but much worn on the outer side.

A man by the name of Blodgett made a claim in West Burns valley, where P. B. Palmer now lives. He brought with him a small herd of cows and lived on this claim during the summer. While here he lost two children from sickness. He sold out his stock and abandoned the claim in the fall and went back down the river.

In the fall of this year A. B. Smith came to Wabasha prairie, and for awhile had the west half of the McDermott claim—the eighty next west of the claim owned by Dr. Childs. It was said that he was holding this for Mr. Healey, by whom he was employed. It was difficult to tell who was the real owner of the claim; it was jumped several times by different individuals. It was sold by McDermott to David Olmsted. Mr. Smith did not reside on any claim, although he held several. Prior to his coming here he had been engaged in lumbering business, cutting and rafting, and as a pilot in running lumber down the Ohio and on the Mississippi rivers. He spent the winter as a regular boarder with Mrs. Goddard, and married the widow the following season.

A. B. Smith was well known to all of the early settlers as a hotel keeper,—as the landlord of the old “Minnesota House,” built by him in 1853, on the corner of Center and Second streets, where S. C. White's store now stands. He was also the proprietor of the “Wabasha Prairie House,” which stood on the corner of Front and Franklin streets, built by him in the summer of 1855. While living here he suddenly left home in the night, without the family or any



WILLIAM BROWN.





one connected with the house being aware of his intentions to do so. Nothing of a certainty was ever learned relative to any circumstances connected with his mysterious disappearance. It was known that at about that time he was accustomed to carry a considerable sum of money about his person. He sometimes indulged freely in intoxicating drinks. It was generally supposed that he had been foully dealt with—probably murdered for his money and his body thrown into the river. Suspicion rested on some with whom he familiarly associated at about that time, but no evidence was ever secured that appeared to justify making any arrests. There was no proof of his death.

During the latter part of this season Roderick Kellogg came up from La Crosse to do some mason-work for the settlers on Wabasha prairie. He was a competent mechanic in his line of business, and a man of more than usual abilities and general information, but his intemperate habits had isolated him from his family. He was readily induced to come here and work at his trade, although there was but little to do, because, as he expressed himself, he “would by so doing, get away from the temptation of the hell-holes where intoxicating drinks could at all times be procured.” Mr. Kellogg was, for a year or so, benefited by the change, but when the hell-holes opened in Winona he found them, although they were small ones.

The first regular mason-work done in this county was by Roderick Kellogg. His first job of work was on Wabasha prairie, where he plastered two rooms for Rev. Edward Ely, on the corner of Center and Second streets. This was the first plastered house in the county. His next job of plastering was the lower rooms in the “Viets House,” afterward known as the Winona House—it stood on Front street, on the levee. The first brick chimney built in the county was by Mr. Kellogg, in the Viets House. His third job of plastering and chimney-building was in a small one-story house of two rooms built by Johnson for Andrew Cole, on lot 4, block 10. Johnson’s original claim shanty, on claim No. 4, was torn down and used in the construction of this building. These three buildings were the only houses in the county with plastered rooms until the season of 1853.

Nearly all of the mason-work required by the settlers of this vicinity was done by Mr. Kellogg. He worked at his trade here for three or four years, and then went back to La Crosse. He

owned the lot on the corner of Franklin and Second streets, where Rohweder's meat-market now stands. In the spring of 1853 he built a small one-story house on the corner, about 12×20, plastered inside and outside. This he occupied as his residence—his family living in La Crosse. He also built the house which stands on the same lot next to the alley. It was at one time used as a hotel.

Roderick Kellogg was an industrious man, seldom idle if there was anything to do, except when intoxicated; then he was inclined to be quarrelsome. He was a handy man of all work, and when not engaged at his trade he was always ready to undertake any small jobs for the settlers, such as rough carpenter work, gardening, etc.

Mr. Kellogg always found a sympathizing friend in Rev. Mr. Ely, who had, from his first acquaintance with him, taken an interest in trying to bring about a reform in his life, but without success: the series of efforts were balanced by a like series of failures. After Mr. Ely engaged in mercantile business, in 1854, he sometimes found Mr. Kellogg's services about the store a convenience, and at times employed him. On one occasion Kellogg made his appearance when partially intoxicated. He was told that his services were not needed while in that condition. He attempted by argument to show that he was not drunk—that he knew what he was about, although he had taken a drink. His remarks became insulting, and Mr. Ely told him to leave the store—to go away and not come back again, for he would have nothing more to do with him.

Kellogg went outside and became noisy and abusive—attracting the attention of the idlers about (of whom the writer was one). Becoming excited in his harangue, he fairly jumped up and down, until suddenly he stopped, as if strongly impressed with a new idea of retaliation for the fancied wrong done him, and exclaimed, "D— you, Elder Ely! I'll get even with you yet—I'll go and jump your claim for this." He at once turned and marched off down the street as if his determination was a fixed one. He did not attempt to carry out his threat, for when sober he respected the elder. The idea was a popular one, that the greatest wrong that could be inflicted on a settler was to jump his *claim*.

During the latter part of the season John and Rufus Emerson, brothers, came into this county and settled on Wabasha prairie. John Emerson had a wife and two or three children. After looking about for awhile he selected a location south of the Evans claim, toward the upper end of the lake. He built a shanty on it and made

it his home, with his family, for about two years, when he sold it to Edwin Foster. Taylor's Addition is a part of the Emerson claim. Mr. Emerson moved to the western part of the county, where he located himself on a farm.

Rufus Emerson was a single man. Without permanently locating himself, he speculated in claims by taking possession of some unoccupied land (jumping claims) and selling out his interest to other settlers. He was identified with several difficulties where claim-jumping was charged, either for his own individual benefit or as an employe of others. He pre-empted a claim on the bottom-land west of Gilmore's. Rufus Emerson built a house on the Stevens claim in the spring of 1854. This house is yet standing. It is on Second Street, between Market and Franklin streets, on lot 2, block 143. This building was constructed from lumber found floating down the river and picked up at different times. Emerson sold it before it was completed. It was afterward clapboarded and finished by W. H. Stevens, into whose hands it fell.

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## CHAPTER XXXII.

### POSTOFFICES.

DURING the season of 1852 there were two postoffices created in this county by the postoffice department, although there was but one in regular operation until about the beginning of the following year. The first was at Minnesota City, with Robert Pike, Jr., as postmaster. The other at Wabasha prairie, with George G. Barber as postmaster.

The office at Minnesota City was established with the proviso that the mails should be transported, free of charge to the department, to and from the nearest postoffice on the Mississippi. The mails were made up and received in regular form at this office, but no regular carrier employed. The special mail-bag provided, was usually carried by some of the colonists who chanced to go to La Crosse, the nearest postoffice on the river, or it was taken to Wabasha prairie and sent down by the boats. On certain days, about every week, the mail-bag was brought up from La Crosse by



the boats and left at Wabasha prairie, where some one from the colony awaited its arrival. Prior to this all mail matter belonging to the members of the association was usually carried and looked after by the settlers of the colony.

It was usual for the postmaster at La Crosse to deliver to some well known settler all of the mail matter of the settlement to which he belonged. Where parties were well known, their letters were sometimes sent to them by the clerks of the boats, to be left at their nearest landing-place. In this way Nathan Brown received letters at his landing. Bunnell took charge of all mail matter for Bunnell's landing, and in the early part of the season all letters for settlers on Wabasha prairie were left in the care of Johnson.

During the summer and early part of the winter the Rev. Edward Ely made frequent visits between Wabasha prairie and La Crosse. A portion of the time his family was living at the latter place. When he brought his family to Johnson's landing, he for awhile occupied Johnson's claim shanty on claim No. 4. His frequent trips between the two places were made the means by which the settlers on Wabasha prairie received and sent away their letters.

Mr. Ely always made it a duty to bring up all mail matter belonging to this locality, and was accustomed to carry it about with him until distributed to the settlers, who usually flocked around him as soon as his arrival was known. This was readily ascertained, for it was the usual custom for everybody to visit the landing on the arrival of a steamboat from below. All letters sent by the boats were then left in his care for delivery. It was from this matter of accommodation, and from his custom of carrying all letters about his person, the traditional story originated, that "in the early days of the settlement of this county the postoffice was in Elder Ely's hat."

The second postoffice in the county was on Wabasha prairie. It was called Montezuma; the postmaster was George G. Barber. The first movement toward making application for this office originated with the Wabasha Protection Club. Mention has already been made that a majority of the members of this organization were residents of La Crosse, who held claims on this side of the river, many of them never residents of the territory. The laws of the club allowed its members to hold claims for six months without making a residence on them, and with but nominal improvements. The members were pledged to aid each other in retaining possession during that time. This law conflicted with the United States and

Territorial claim laws, and led to frequent differences among the early settlers.

At one of the meetings of the club the necessity of a postoffice was discussed and action taken in favor of making application to the postoffice department. A *blank petition* was signed, but the drawing up of the necessary papers and forwarding the same was referred to Andrew Cole, a lawyer in La Crosse and a member of the club. It was then supposed, and generally understood, that the secretary, Abner S. Goddard, would be recommended in the petition for postmaster, and that the name of the postoffice would be Wabasha prairie.

When the papers were drawn up, the attorney, with the approval of some of the members of the club, inserted Montezuma as the name of the postoffice, and recommended George G. Barber as postmaster. Mr. Barber was a resident of La Crosse. He had made a claim in Gilmore valley early in the spring, but never improved it. The *blank petition* filled out at La Crosse was forwarded to the postoffice department and the appointment duly made. Mr. Barber received his commission about the middle of June, gave the required bonds and took the oath of office. He came up to make his arrangements for supplying the settlers of Wabasha prairie with their mail and offered the position of deputy-postmaster to Mr. Goddard, who indignantly refused to accept the position. Mr. Barber returned to La Crosse without being able to secure a deputy. The settlers on Wabasha prairie declined the honor,—the only instance in the history of this county where official position has been generally declined.

No improvements were made in postal facilities; "the elder" continued to carry the "mail in his hat." About the 20th of July Byron Viets moved up from La Crosse and accepted the position of deputy-postmaster from Mr. Barber.

Mr. Viets did not open the office regularly. The mails were made up and distributed as before, at La Crosse. The only additional advantage afforded was that the mail was carried by the boats in a canvas bag without a lock. By request of Mr. Viets, the elder distributed the contents of the bag left in his charge as he had previously done.

The settlers were dissatisfied with the appointment of a non-resident as postmaster, who lived thirty miles away. The name of Montezuma was equally objectionable, although Johnson had

adopted it as the name of the town-site, then just plotted by John Ball on Wabasha prairie.

A public meeting was called to consider the matter and the question freely discussed. All united in a petition to the postoffice department for the appointment of Abner S. Goddard as postmaster in place of George G. Barber, a resident of another state. Nearly all petitioned to have the name of the office changed from Montezuma to Winona. In discussing this change several names were proposed, Winona, Wabasha, Wabasha City, Prairie and Ozelle. The name of Winona was adopted by a majority of one when the vote was taken.

It is now uncertain who first suggested the name of Winona. It has been said that it was proposed by Captain Smith. Some are equally positive that it was suggested by Dr. Balcombe. Others say it was Dr. Childs. Dr. Childs was noted for his peculiarity of giving names to localities, and to all animals in his possession. Gilmore valley was called by him "Winona valley," about the time the name of Winona was selected as the name of the postoffice.

Letters in the hands of Mrs. Calista Balcombe, the widow of Dr. John L. Balcombe, show that Dr. Balcombe, Mr. Howard and Ed. Hamilton, then the proprietors of No. 5, the Hamilton claim urged upon Captain Smith the propriety of calling the new town plot Wabasha. This Captain Smith consented to do, provided he could induce Alexis Bailey to have the name of the postoffice at Wabasha changed, but Bailey would not consent. They then proposed to call it Wabasha City, and adopted the name themselves for use in their correspondence. Dr. Balcombe was always anxious to have a Dakota name given to the town. Neither Captain Smith nor the proprietors of claim No. 5 were present when the name of Winona was adopted. The postoffice department promptly changed the name of the postoffice to Winona and appointed Mr. Goddard postmaster. When his commission arrived he was lying on his bed of sickness, from which he never recovered. He died before he was able to qualify for the position. The postoffice was without a legal postmaster. The boats, however, carried the mails between La Crosse and the prairie, where they were taken care of by the volunteer postmaster. Elder Ely obtained possession of the keys and acted in that capacity without taking the oath of office required from those who handle the United States mail. No mails were made up or officially received

at this office. This duty was performed at La Crosse. The elder was simply acting in the same capacity of messenger that he had been previously doing, except instead of carrying the letters "in his hat" he was accommodated with a mail bag. The faithfulness shown by Mr. Ely in his attention to this self-imposed duty was satisfactory to the settlers. Among the traditional anecdotes of the early days is one showing the zeal of the elder in the performance of his duties. He received the mail bag from the boat and also delivered it with the letters to be posted at La Crosse. It was his custom to preach here on Sundays when not engaged at La Crosse, where he had regular appointments, alternating with Elder Hamilton—one preaching on one Sunday and the other on the next. While holding forth eloquently to an attentive congregation in his own shanty, on one of his days to speak to the people, the settlers were suddenly and unexpectedly startled by the whistle of a steamboat approaching the landing. The elder brought his sermon to a close very abruptly, with the remark, "There's a boat from below," and hastened to the levee to receive the expected mail. The elder denies having any recollection of this occurrence. Those who are familiar with his eccentricities believe it. George W. Clark says it is true, for he was one of his audience—that the elder stopped short in one of the best sermons he ever heard him attempt to deliver, and left his astonished congregation to ponder on the finale of the discourse if completed, or to follow him to the levee and see if there was any one on the boat that they knew, and inquire for long expected letters when the elder had secured the United States mail bag.

To remedy all difficulties arising from the irregularities of mail facilities, a meeting of the settlers was called to take the matter under consideration and recommend a candidate to fill the vacancy of postmaster. The Rev. Edward Ely was selected for the position by an unanimous vote, and a petition, signed by all on the prairie, forwarded to the department in Washington.

At this meeting an effort was made to again change the name of the postoffice—to call it Wabasha City—but the matter was settled by a vote, and one majority for Winona. The elder says that his vote retained the name of Winona.

Elder Ely duly received his commission and became the lawful postmaster at Winona, on Wabasha prairie, where he had had the distribution of letters that came by mail about nine months unofficially. The first regular mail made up by him after receiving



his appointment was on the 8th day of January, 1853. The office was in his residence on the corner of Center and Second streets, where now the "Ely block" stands. Mr. Ely held this position until early in the spring of 1855, when he was superseded by J. W. Downer, and the postoffice removed to the "Downer building," which stood about midway between Market and Walnut streets, on the north side of Front street.

This change was a political movement. When the United States land-office was established at Winona and the little settlement at Johnson's landing began to assume some importance it was considered advisable that the postmaster should be one in sympathy with the party in power. The administration was democratic, and as the elder was of different political faith the services of the pioneer postmaster were no longer required.

The first marriage on Wabasha prairie, now the city of Winona, and the first marriage within the present boundaries of this county, was that of S. K. Thompson and Mrs. Sutherland, on the 9th of November, 1852. The marriage ceremony was performed by the Rev. Edward Ely at his own house, where the parties were stopping temporarily while waiting for a down boat to take them to LaCrosse.

S. K. Thompson was among the first arrivals here in the spring. Without locating himself on a claim he had remained on Wabasha prairie during the season and made his home with John Evans. He was about forty-five years old, a man of good general intelligence and of dignified personal appearance. Mrs. Sutherland was a widow about forty years of age. She came here with her brother, O. S. Holbrook, and kept house for him until her marriage, after which Thompson and Holbrook lived together for awhile on Holbrook's claim, which he had discovered lying south of and adjoining the McDermott claim, until Thompson made a claim back of the lake and moved on it.

The claim, back of the lake, made by George Wallace early in the spring of 1852, had laid during this season with but little, if anything, to show that it was claimed. Its exposed situation was a temptation for some one without a claim to watch. The Rev. Mr. Ely had not, as yet, taken a claim. On the 2d of December, 1852, he, with his axe on his shoulder, crossed the lake on the ice and jumped Wallace's claim. He took possession by chopping down some trees and blazing others, on which he conspicuously displayed his name.

Mr. Wallace was a nephew of Thompson's wife, the late Widow Sutherland. Considering the Wallace claim to be a family possession which should be guarded, Thompson jumped it from Mr. Ely on January 15, 1853, while the elder was at La Crosse holding a series of revival meetings for which he had been employed. The elder was too much engaged in his professional labors to devote his time and attention to the protection of his rights, and Thompson established himself on the claim by building a cabin on it, which he occupied with his wife. Mr. Thompson afterward bought the claim of George Wallace and built a comfortable frame house, a story and a half building, in which he lived for ten or twelve years, or while he remained in this part of the country. The house is yet standing, and forms part of the present farmhouse of Mr. John Zenk.

S. K. Thompson was a gentlemanly appearing man in dress and manners, and always seemed to have control of funds to engage in business. He held official positions,—was county commissioner, and for several years was justice of the peace. In his younger days he had been a merchant in Ohio. For about ten years before settling in this county he had been engaged in speculative investments along the upper Mississippi. He was for awhile in business as a merchant at Winona.

It has been already related that when Elijah Silsbee sold his claim in 1854, he, with Charles S. Hamilton, started a store on the corner of Front and Center streets. About January 1, 1855, they dissolved partnership, Mr. Silsbee retaining the stock of goods. Soon after this S. K. Thompson bought the goods and carried on the business for about one year. In the fall of 1855 he purchased quite a large stock of general merchandise, groceries, etc. During the winter he sold out to Burr Deuel and Luke Blair. The incidents of this sale are noted to show something of the manner of doing business at that date. When Mr. Thompson sold out to Deuel & Blair he gave possession at once, and was to receive the first payment as soon as the inventory was taken, and the balance in notes of the firm. The inventory was taken by Thompson and Holbrook. Before the inventory was completed enough was realized from sales to make the first payment. The notes for the balance at six and twelve months were paid before due, the firm buying their own paper through an agent, A. P. Foster, at a liberal discount of 3 per cent per month. A portion of the Silsbee stock had been damaged by the sinking of the barge in which it was brought up the river in

1854. To get rid of all of the unsalable goods, auction sales were held, at which "Uncle Luke" was himself the auctioneer and a popular salesman. It was a current report that D. & B. made about \$3,000 clear in this transaction before the opening of navigation in the spring, when they renewed their stock.

Two or three years before Mr. Thompson left this part of the country the community was somewhat startled to learn that he had two wives, a married daughter and a very affectionate adopted daughter living with him in his house across the lake back of Winona. Some inquisitive ones, whose sensibilities were shocked by the revelations, attempted to have the affair investigated by the grand jury, to whom complaint was made, but the harmony of the happy family prevented a full expose of the scandal. After remaining here about a year the wife with the married daughter moved to Nebraska. Thompson followed in a year or two after with wife No. 2 and the adopted daughter. It is rumored that Thompson and wife No. 2 died from the effects of poison in Nebraska.

The stores started by Mr. Robertson at Minnesota City, and Mr. Denman at Wabasha prairie, were closed out early in the fall. To procure their supplies for the winter, the settlers sent orders to Galena by the boats; some combined and bought their groceries and provisions at wholesale prices through Mr. Denman as agent. Mr. Johnson went down to Galena and purchased goods for the settlers on the prairie. These supplies were brought up by the Nominee on her last trip and left at La Crosse on November 15. Captain Smith was afraid to venture farther up the river against the ice that had begun to form in the river. A severe snowstorm occurred on November 11, followed by intense cold, the thermometer indicating several degrees below zero.

Mr. Burley says that he went down to La Crosse with Mr. Denman, and was there when the Nominee turned back down the river. They came up with Johnson the next day on foot, on the west side of the river; the snow was about six inches deep. They stayed all night at Brown's. The news that their supplies were stopped at La Crosse was not very cheering to the settlers, for the most of them had but a limited amount on hand, and the prospect was that they would be unable to procure more until the ice formed sufficient to enable them to travel on the river. The weather moderated, the snow melted away and the river cleared of ice. It was then expected

that the steamboats would again come up and bring their freight, but no boats ventured on another trip.

On December 9 a party of five men from the Rolling Stone, with half-a-dozen from Wabasha prairie, went down to La Crosse for the supplies left by the Nominee, expecting to bring them up on one of the Black River boats. Among this party were D. Q. Burley, S. E. Cotton, Wm. T. Luark, J. S. Denman and Charles Bannan, of Minnesota City; from the prairie were E. H. Johnson, A. B. Smith, John C. Laird, George W. Clark, Wm. H. Stevens and Peter Gorr. The weather became intensely cold and ice formed in the river, making the trip a laborious one. They reached Brown's the first day from La Crosse, and stopped all night. The following day they landed their freight on the lower end of the prairie late in the evening. The boat was at once unloaded and started back to La Crosse under the pilotage of A. B. Smith and an assistant. Elder Ely also took passage down. They landed at Brown's and stayed until daylight, when they safely reached La Crosse without accident, although the channel was filled with floating ice.

The settlers who remained in the colony and made their homes in Minnesota City during the winter of 1852-3 had comfortable cabins, in which they passed the winter. Some of these cabins were of logs, others were of boards. No cases of suffering from insufficient food or clothing were known in the settlement. Their principal employment was providing firewood for present use and laying in a supply for the ensuing year.

After the sloughs were frozen over they engaged in chopping on the islands, cutting and banking steamboat-wood, getting out logs, timber, posts and rails for use in claim improvements. Their social enjoyments were quiet visits exchanged with each other and occasional meetings of the association.

Among the incidents of the winter was the loss of the horses of S. M. Burns. On Christmas day he with his wife left their home on the bank of the river at what was afterward called Mt. Vernon, for the purpose of visiting the settlement at Minnesota City. He started down on the ice with his horses and sleigh. While on Haddock slough his horses broke through the ice and were drowned. Burns and his wife narrowly escaped the same fate. This team was the one Burns brought with him when he came to Minnesota. There was but one other team of horses in the north part of the county, that belonging to O. M. Lord, of Minnesota City.



Mr. Burns and his wife spent the day with their friends in the colony. In the evening Mr. Lord took them up to their home with his horses and sleigh, over the trail along the bluffs. He came near losing his own team while on this neighborly trip. In crossing the run in the mouth of Deering's valley he missed the trail and drove below, where the banks were higher and drifted with snow. The horses attempted to jump across, but fell head first into the little stream and were unable to rise. The long sleigh-tongue, which projected two or three feet in front of the horses, was driven into the bank and held them fast. Their bodies formed a dam and the water was soon pouring over their backs. Mr. Lord never traveled without his ax; he was a natural pioneer and prompt to act in cases of emergency. Although it was dark he comprehended the difficulty, and with two or three blows with his ax severed the sleigh-tongue in the rear of the horses and set them at liberty, but not until they were nearly drowned. The tongue was soon repaired with cord brought along in the sleigh, and Mr. Lord made the trip without other accident. His team occupied Burns' stable until the next morning.

The following is a list of members of the Farm and Village Association who settled in the colony at Rolling Stone in 1852 with their families, and who in 1883 are yet residents of that locality: O. M. Lord and wife, James Wright and wife, Egbert Chapman and wife, Mrs. H. B. Waterman, Mrs. Pike (widow of Robert Pike, Jr.,) and her daughter Emma, now Mrs. Frank D. Stewart, Robert Thorp and wife, E. B. Drew, S. E. Cotton and wife, Lawrence Dilworth and wife, Charles Bannon, S. D. Putnam and wife, William Sweet, D. Q. Burley and H. Jones. H. B. Waterman resides in the State of New York. Rufus Waterman is living in the city of Winona.

The settlers on Wabasha prairie, like others along the river, in the winter of 1852-3 engaged in cutting steamboat-wood, logs, timber, etc., on the island opposite. Among their social enjoyments was a general gathering and Christmas dinner held at the Viets House, then occupied by Edwin Hamilton. At the Christmas gathering held on the prairie twelve months before, Ed. Hamilton was the chief cook and general manager of the bachelor dinner. At this second affair he was general manager, but Mrs. Goddard had charge of the cooking department, although it is stated that Ed. Hamilton provided a roast coon of his own preparation for the table.

This dinner was got up by a general contribution of material from those interested. Each family provided a part; even the furniture and dishes were furnished for the occasion. It is said by one who enjoyed it that the dinner was a good one. About half of the settlers on the prairie attended this gathering. Charles Bannon and S. E. Cotton with their wives were present from Rolling Stone.

The following is a list of the settlers living on Wabasha prairie at that date: Rev. H. S. Hamilton, wife and two sons, Charles S. and Eugene; Rev. Edward Ely, wife and two children, "Charlie" and "Nellie"; Dr. George F. Childs and wife; Mrs. Goddard and son Charles; George M. Gere, wife and a large family; Wm. B. Gere, Edwin Gere, Mary Gere, Henry C. Gere, wife and a large family; Angelia Gere, Helen Gere, John Evans and wife, Abigail Evans, Royal B. Evans, John Emerson, wife and children; S. K. Thompson and wife, E. H. Johnson, Ed. Hamilton, George W. Clark, Scott Clark, John C. Laird, Wm. H. Stevens, O. S. Holbrook, Frank Curtiss, Rufus Emerson, A. B. Smith, Allen Gilmore, Caleb Nash, Jabez McDermott, — Roberts and Elijah Silsbee.

Of the settlers living on Wabasha prairie at the close of the year 1852 the following are yet living in the county of Winona in 1883: Mrs. Goddard, now known as Mrs. Catharine Smith, Elder Ely and wife, Wm. H. Stevens, John C. Laird, Royal B. Evans and George W. Clark.

Without the aid of an official census, it was estimated by M. Wheeler Sargent "that the population within the present boundaries of Winona county on the 1st day of January, 1853, was about 350, of whom a majority were or had been members of the Western Farm and Village Association."

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## CHAPTER XXXIII.

### INCIDENTS.

AMONG the incidents of this winter at Winona, noted by Dr. Childs in his diary, was the following — "Sunday, January 30, 1853: Attended meeting; Elder Hamilton preached. At night had the privilege of leading a prayer meeting at the house of Mr. Evans — the first prayer meeting ever held on the prairie; Elder Ely present."

The building of the first bridge across the Gilmore valley creek, the first bridge in this part of the county, is thus noted by Dr. Childs— "Monday, January 31, 1853: Very mild, snow fast disappearing. Engaged building a bridge on the Winona creek, aided by George and Scott Clark, Royal Evans, Edwin Hamilton and Allen Gilmore. Of all the men who voted at the meeting in favor of the work, pledging their assistance, from the village and lower end of the prairie, but one was present."

The following is also copied from the diary of Dr. Childs— "Sunday, February 27, 1853: Thawing, with rain; Allen Gilmore immersed." At a prayer meeting held at Mr. Evans' on Sunday, February 20, "Allen Gilmore expressed a wish to be immersed, which was decided to take place next Sabbath." This was the first instance of the observance of this religious ordinance in what is now the city of Winona. It is said that Rev. E. Ely officiated at this baptism.

An incident which occurred about the first of March of this year (1853) will illustrate the reckless impulsiveness of Charles S. Hamilton, of whom mention has been made. During the winter a party of Winnebago Indians were camped over on the Trempealeau bottoms, and for the purpose of selling venison and furs and skins they frequently visited the settlement on the prairie. Aside from being inveterate beggars, they were in no way troublesome. At the time spoken of, two of these Indians, who had been up to the village, stopped at H. S. Hamilton's while on their way back to their camp. They asked permission to sharpen their knives on the grindstone which stood outside. This was readily allowed by Charlie, who, with his young brother Eugene, were the only ones at home. The Indians quietly used the grindstone and started across the river on the ice. When they were at full long range distance of his rifle from the house, Charlie, standing in the doorway, deliberately took aim and fired at them. One fell senseless. Fearing another shot, his comrade seized and dragged him beyond the range of the gun. The wounded Indian, after lying a short time on the ice, got up and, with the help of the other, went on over to the Trempealeau.

The Winnebagoes complained to Bunnell of the unjustifiable assault. Bunnell called at Elder Hamilton's to learn the cause of the shooting, but Charley had no excuse for the cowardly act except that he only shot at them to scare them, supposing they were

beyond the range of his rifle. The ball struck the Indian on the head and glanced off, inflicting a scalp-wound. The force was sufficient to knock him down and render him senseless without producing serious injuries. Bunnell warned Charley to be on his guard and take care of himself, for the Indian might attempt to retaliate if he had an opportunity. Charlie was afraid of the Winnebagoes after this occurrence, but no hostilities were ever threatened that was known.

During the winter the matter of a county organization was a general topic of discussion among the settlers along the river. The counties of Dakota and Wabashaw had remained unorganized, as they were created in 1849. The territorial legislature, during its session of 1853, divided them and made provision for several counties from these divisions. While this matter was under consideration the question of the establishment of the county seats of the new counties became an important matter; almost every settlement presented claims for the location of the county offices. Every settlement along the river in this part of Wabashaw county had lobby representatives in St. Paul for the purpose of securing the location of the county seat of this division. Minnesota City, Winona, Minneowah and Brownsville were rivals for the honor. By a general act the legislature conferred the authority on the county commissioners to locate the county seats.

When Wabashaw county was divided and Fillmore county was created from the southern portion, March 5, 1853, its boundaries were described as "Beginning at the southwest corner of Wabashaw county, thence southeast to the Iowa state line, thence east on said Iowa state line to the Mississippi river, thence up the middle of said river to the mouth of the Minneska or White river, thence up said river on the south line of Wabashaw county to the place of beginning." The western boundary of Fillmore county was then supposed to include the present city of Rochester, in Olmsted county, and the present village of Chatfield in Fillmore county. Its northern and western boundaries were not clearly defined.

The act by which Fillmore county was created declared it to be an organized county, "invested with all and singular the rights and privileges and immunities to which all organized counties are in this territory entitled to by law," and that it was the duty of the governor "at so soon a time as possible to appoint all county officers, justices of the peace and constables, as said county may be entitled



to by law, who shall hold their offices until their successors shall be elected and qualified at the next general election."

Wabashaw county, before it was divided, had no county seat. The act creating Fillmore county provided as follows: "It shall be the duty of the first board of county commissioners which shall be hereafter elected in any county laid off in pursuance of this act, as soon after said board shall have been elected and qualified as provided by law, as the said board or a majority of them shall determine, to locate the county seat of the county, and the location so made as aforesaid shall be the county seat of the county, to all intents and purposes, until otherwise provided by law."

Under this act the governor appointed the following officers: Register of deeds, H. B. Stoll, of Minneowah; treasurer, Erwin H. Johnson, of Winona; judge of probate, Andrew Cole; sheriff, John Iams. [The justices of the peace previously appointed for Wabashaw county were continued, viz, T. K. Allen, John Burns, Geo M. Gere and H. B. Waterman. The county commissioners appointed were Henry C. Gere, of Winona, Myron Toms, of Minneowah, and William T. Luark, of Minnesota City.

The first meeting of the board of county commissioners was held at the "Winona House" on May 28. H. C. Gere was chairman and H. B. Stoll as register of deeds was clerk. The business transacted was the appointment of three assessors,—S. A. Houck, J. C. Laird and Jeremiah Tibbets. The approval of the bond of sheriff John Iams, with O. M. Lord and E. B. Drew as sureties.

The following names were ordered to be entered as a grand jury list for the June circuit court: H. B. Stoll, James F. Toms, Myron Toms, Nathan Brown, Willard B. Bunnell, H. Carroll, Henry C. Gere, George M. Gere, Wm. T. Luark, George H. Sanborn, Harvey Hubbard, Isaac Hamilton, O. S. Holbrook, Wm. B. Gere, S. A. Houk, S. A. Putnam, H. B. Waterman, E. B. Drew, O. M. Lord, T. K. Allen, Egbert Chapman, A. A. Gilbert, Robert Taylor and A. P. Hall.

The petit jurors for the same court were Edwin B. Gere, John Evans, Erastus H. Murray, Edwin Hamilton, William H. Stevens, John C. Laird, Alex. Smith, John Emerson, Erwin Johnson, John Burns, Frank Curtiss, George W. Clark, Scott Clark, Allen Gilmore, H. B. Thompson, Isaac W. Simonds, Jerry Tibbets, Asa Pierce. — Fortune, S. J. Burnet, H. J. Harrington, William E. Hewitt, Henry Herrick, Warren Rowell, James Kinkade, — Fletcher,

Squire Day, A. T. Pentler, James Campbell, — Thompson, — Webster, Peter Gorr, O. H. Houk, J. S. Denman, Charles Bannan, S. E. Cotton, H. Stradling, Wm. H. Coryell, H. Hull, J. W. Bently, D. Q. Burly, J. Nicklin, J. Wright, P. D. Follett, R. Thorp, Louis Krutzly, Henry W. Driver, C. R. Coryell and Alex. McClintock.

The second meeting of the board of county commissioners was held at the house of John Burns, in the mouth of Burns valley. Mr. Toms, Mr. Luark, and the clerk, Stoll, were present, but there is no record of any business except to approve the bonds of the assessors, Mr. Toms acting as chairman.

The next meeting was July 4, at Minneowah, at which no one was present except Mr. Toms and the clerk. "The chairman adjourned to meet at Winona July 5."

The next meeting was held pursuant to adjournment, and the following entry afterward made on the record by Mr. Stoll, who was not present. It was evidently designed as a squib at Wabasha prairie: "Winona, July 5, 1853 — H. C. Gere and Wm. T. Luark, commissioners, met pursuant to adjournment at the Winona hotel. Myron Toms, one of the absent commissioners, not being able to reach Winona on account of the high state of water and the then impassable gulf, the former commissioners adjourned to meet at the Winona Hotel July 9, 1853. Approved the bond of E. H. Johnson, county treasurer of Fillmore county. H. B. Stoll, clerk."

The office of H. B. Stoll, the register of deeds, was in the village of Minneowah. The first deed recorded was one from Isaac Van Etten to H. B. Stoll, dated January 4, 1853, and filed in the office May 11, 1853. This conveyed one half of Van Etten's interest in Minneowah. The consideration was \$300.

The first deed made in this county that was placed on record was a quit-claim from William B. Gere of part of his claim on Wabasha prairie to A. M. Fridley, of St. Paul. It is dated November 1, 1852, but not filed for record until the 29th of June, 1853. The consideration was \$150. The acknowledgment was before George M. Gere, justice of the peace, November 4, 1852.

The part of William B. Gere's claim transferred by this deed was eighty acres, on which the shanty of Henry C. Gere stood. The incidents of this transaction were given to the writer by Mr. Fridley many years ago. During the latter part of the season of 1852 Mr. Fridley made the acquaintance of Henry C. Gere, while on a steamboat between La Crosse and Wabasha prairie. Gere

then proposed to sell him a claim of eighty acres he held on Wabasha prairie. Mr. Fridley purchased the eighty acres where H. C. Gere was then living for \$150, receiving a quit-claim from William B. Gere. He also gave H. C. Gere \$50 to hold the claim for him until the following spring. Gere continued to occupy the shanty until the spring of 1854, drawing upon Mr. Fridley during that time, in consideration of his services as claimkeeper, until the sum total paid H. C. Gere by A. M. Fridley for that eighty was \$1,200. The claim was then placed in possession of L. D. Smith, who came here from St. Paul with his family in the spring of 1854. It is now known as Plummer's Addition to the plat of Winona.

During the season of 1852, and until the following year, the claim of Captain Smith at the lower end of the prairie—claim No. 1,—held by Smith and Johnson, had remained undisturbed, no attempt having been made to molest it. Johnson removed the shanty, using the lumber for other purposes at the upper landing.

Early in the spring, in April, 1853, the unoccupied claim was jumped by Isaac W. Simonds. As soon as this was known to E. H. Johnson, he, by direction of Captain Smith, commenced suit against Simonds in justice's court, before Squire Gere, to oust him from the possession he had assumed. The defense was under the management of a lawyer by the name of Stevens, from La Crosse. It was then learned that Simonds had taken possession of the claim for a stock company, composed of William B. Gere, Charles S. Hamilton, Isaac W. Simonds and — Stevens, the attorney in the claim suit. The suit was adjourned from time to time, from in April to about the first of June, without coming to trial. In the meantime the company had a town surveyed and platted covering 141 acres of the claim. It was given the name of Wabasha City. The claim shanty stood a little in front of where the residence of Mrs. Keyes now stands. This was occupied by Simonds and Charlie Hamilton.

## CHAPTER XXXIV.

### A BLOODY CONFLICT.

DURING the winter and spring Johnson had made his headquarters at the house he had built on Front street for the use of Andrew Cole, which he afterward sold to him. He, however, made his home with John Evans, whose daughter, Abigail M. Evans, he married later in the season. He usually spent his evenings at Evans' when on the prairie. Johnson became impatient at the delay in the trial of his suit against Simonds, and while at supper one evening he remarked that he would have to go down to the lower claim and "clean them out" himself if he ever expected to get possession. He soon after started for the village. This indicated another claim-fight. Johnson "cleaned them out" that night. The particulars of this fight were related to the writer by Royal B. Evans, a son of John Evans, who took part in the affray. Mr. Evans says: "It was about the middle of May or a little after that Johnson shot Simonds. I came home rather late that day and found that the rest of the family had been to supper; they were talking about Johnson, who had just gone down to the village. Father said Johnson would get into trouble if he attempted to drive Simonds and Charlie Hamilton off from the lower claim without he had some help. My sister wanted I should find him and tell him that father wished to see him.

"After supper I went down to the landing; a steamboat had just come up and almost everybody living on the prairie was on the levee. Simonds and Charlie Hamilton were conspicuous, but Johnson was not there. John McDermott told me he saw him going back on the prairie just after the boat landed. It was then dark. I expected I should find him at the lower claim, and went down there in search of him. As I approached the Simonds shanty Johnson hailed me and ordered me to halt. I answered him and he told me to come in. Johnson said he expected to have a fight and was ready for them. He had a Colt's rifle and an old 'pepper box' pistol. I had brought nothing with me, not even a club. He said that when he saw Simonds and Hamilton up at the village he



went and got his gun and pistol and started. We sat down in front of the shanty and examined them ; they had not been used in a long time. The rifle was out of repair and would not work. Finding it was of no use, he took the barrel off and stood it beside the door, saying, 'That will do to use as a club.'

"About ten o'clock we heard some one coming down the prairie, and knew that it was Simonds by his loud voice. Johnson hailed them to stop, and threatened them if they advanced. He then snapped two caps on the pistol without a discharge. They came on to where we were standing, near the shanty, when Simonds pitched at Johnson and they two had a regular fist-fight, which lasted some time. Charlie and I looked on without doing anything. We were about the same age and size. Simonds was much the larger and stronger man, and was too much for Johnson. They clinched, and Johnson, finding that Simonds had the advantage, drew his pistol and shot him. The ball passed through the muscles of the forearm and broke the bone above the elbow. They continued clinched for awhile after, when Simonds called for Hamilton to take him off. Hamilton caught Johnson by the throat and tried to choke him. I then attacked Charlie with my fists and knocked him down."

"It was a still, clear, starlight night, and the noise made while the fight was going on was heard at Hamilton's house, where some one halloed in return. Simonds called to them to bring his shotgun. Elder Hamilton and Jake McDermott came up just after Charlie and I had had our set-to ; Johnson kept back out of sight. Simonds complained of being faint, and asked the elder to take him over to his house. I had not received any very hard blows, but Johnson, as well as the other two, had been severely pounded.

"Elder Hamilton took hold of Simonds and supported his wounded arm, while I took hold of him on the other side to help take him to Hamilton's house. Just as we started, Charlie Hamilton attacked me from behind with a club — one of the oak stakes used in surveying the plot. He hit me once before I turned, and then struck me once or twice across the face, cutting me severely before McDermott separated us. McDermott then helped the elder take Simonds home. Not hearing anything of Johnson I went over to Hamilton's to see what was going on there. A steamboat chanced to be coming down and the elder signaled them with his lantern to stop at his landing, intending to send Simonds to La Crosse. A doctor on board examined and dressed the wounded arm, and word

was sent by the boat to La Crosse to have a surgeon come up from there. The elder washed the blood off from my head and face and bandaged up my wounds. The scalp-cut on the back of my head was the worst, but my face was badly cut and bruised. I then went back down the prairie in search of Johnson. While I was up at Hamilton's he had torn the shanty down, and thrown it and everything belonging to it into the river. We then went up home; Johnson was living with us. The next morning we were both arrested by McDermott, the constable. After we had had our breakfast he took us down to Squire Gere's office, where we were detained some time, when the justice decided that the examination could not go on without the testimony of Simonds, and adjourned the court to H. S. Hamilton's house. Johnson refused to walk down there. Squire Gere then sent the constable to find a conveyance. We walked down toward the river, when the justice called to us not to go away, but stay around where we could be found when McDermott came back. Johnson made no reply—I told him I was not going very far away. Johnson went over to Andrew Cole's house to change his clothes. Mr. Cole was then absent. I went home, had my wounds dressed and went to bed, where I slept until the next morning. I then came down to the justice's office and was discharged from custody."

Considerable excitement was aroused over the matter by the new town site company, and when Johnson failed to make his appearance Sheriff Iams was sent to find him and bring him before the court. The sheriff got trace of him at Minnesota City, and overtook him at Hall's landing, below the mouth of the White Water, where he was waiting for a steamboat to come along. Johnson left the river and went up the bluff with the sheriff after him. Johnson could outrun and outclimb the sheriff, and when beyond reach he stopped and told Iams if he came any farther he would send some loose rocks down on him. The sheriff went back to the trail and watched for Johnson to again make his appearance. He was compelled to return without his prisoner. Johnson succeeded in reaching the river without being observed. The steamboats at that time would land anywhere if hailed by a passenger. Johnson went to St. Paul, where he secured counsel and returned to have the case disposed of and settled in some manner. He delivered himself up, and no one appearing against him he was discharged from custody. Simonds had been detained on the prairie to await the examination,

but went to La Crosse two or three days before Johnson's return, which was on June 3.

As soon as Captain Smith learned of the shooting of Simonds by Johnson he sent his son S. J. Smith here to take charge of matters. By the advice of John Evans it was deemed necessary to put up a shanty on the lower claim to hold possession. Mr. Smith secured the services of Mr. Evans and his son Royal, and took a load of lumber down to build a cabin. He was met there by Mr. Stevens from La Crosse, one of the proprietors of the new town, who warned him not to attempt to occupy it, for they should defend their rights to the claim. Mr. Smith decided not to have any more fighting, but trust to the law for redress. He ordered the lumber taken back to the upper landing, notwithstanding the protests of Mr. Evans, who asserted that he could stand as much shooting as they could. Mr. Smith then remained quiet at the hotel where he was stopping.

As soon as Stevens returned to La Crosse he sent Asa Hedge up, who built a shanty and took possession of the claim. The next day after he was discharged from custody Johnson went down and put up a shanty about where the one stood which Augustus Pentler once occupied. This was held by John Evans and Johnson. No collisions occurred between the occupants of the two shanties.

About a week afterward Captain Smith brought up from Galena a house ready made for claim No. 1. It was put up a few rods above where the house of Mrs. Keyes now stands. The same day Mr. Hedge went to La Crosse and his shanty was torn down. It was done by the consent of Mr. Hedge, who sold the possession of the claim to Captain Smith for one or two lots on Front street, fronting on the levee.

Mr. Hedge at once built a small house on lot 1, block 11—brought his family from La Crosse and made it his home for many years. He here opened a restaurant and saloon—the first saloon or place where intoxicating drinks were sold in the city of Winona. His liquors were bought up by the citizens and destroyed. The ladies were the movers in this transaction. He afterward opened his saloon with a new stock, when they were again destroyed or seized by the sheriff. He afterward put up a better building and opened a grocery store, where he carried on quite a trade for two or three years. Frank D. Sloan was his clerk and salesman in the grocery business.

As an illustration of valuation of real estate and manner of

doing business, the following incident is noted relative to this property. In about 1856 or 1857 Mr. Hedge found it necessary to secure a loan to carry on his business. Gable & Werst, money loaners and dealers in real estate, advanced him \$5,000 and took a mortgage on the lot and store to secure the payment of his notes drawing two per cent per month. As a matter of course Mr. Hedge failed in business and the property was sold under the mortgage. How much Gable and Werst posted to profit and loss in this transaction is unknown. They held the property for many years.

Among the early arrivals this season were Ithael Hamilton, the father, and Enoch C. Hamilton, the brother, of H. S. Hamilton, and Erastus H. Murray, a brother-in-law. Harvey Hubbard and John I. Hubbard were also relatives of the Hamiltons.

Enoch C. Hamilton made a claim where the city hospital is now located. His claim shanty stood twenty or thirty rods south of the building now used as a hospital. While living here the house was struck by lightning, during a severe thunderstorm on Sunday, June 19, 1853, and his wife instantly killed.

Mrs. Hamilton opened a select school, which she had been teaching for a week or two previous to her death. This may with a great deal of propriety be called the first school on the prairie. The school opened in Mrs. Goddard's shanty, in 1852, by Miss Gere, then a girl of fourteen or fifteen, was hardly entitled to mention as an institution for instruction. Mrs. Hamilton was an experienced school-teacher. She left three children, Alvin, Alice and Julia. Previous to her marriage Miss Alice Hamilton was for many years a well known teacher in the public schools of the city of Winona.

Mr. Hamilton married again and pre-empted his claim as a homestead. It is now known as E. C. Hamilton's addition. Mr. Hamilton, with his second family, is now living at Minnesota City.

Ithael Hamilton and his son Otis Hamilton made claims on the lower end of the prairie. They have been dead many years.

Harvey and John I. Hubbard built two large dwelling-houses on what is now block 5, Hamilton's addition, which they occupied for several years. None of their families are now residents of this county.

Erastus H. Murray bought the Viets House, and improved it by putting on additions in the rear, finishing off the second story, and building a good frame barn on the rear of the lot. He made it a comfortable hotel, although limited in capacity, to accommodate the



traveling public. He gave it the name of "Winona House," and kept it until early in the spring of 1854, when he sold it to Charles Eaton, who came here at that time. The following June Mr. Eaton sold out his interest in the Winona House to S. H. Lombard, a recent arrival, and moved upon his claim, where George I. Parsons now lives. He is now a citizen of St. Paul. S. H. Lombard kept the Winona House a year or two, when he leased or sold it. The building was burned in the big fire of 1862. Mr. Lombard is yet a resident of Winona.

Mr. Murray built a dwelling on Fourth street, which is yet standing and is part of the New England House. In 1854 he built a dwelling on lot 4, block 14, and also a building for a boot and shoe shop on lot 5 of the same block, on the corner of Second and Lafayette streets, where "Mues' Block" now stands. He carried on business here for two or three years with his brother, W. H. Murray. His shoe-shop was afterward used for the postoffice. None of Mr. Murray's family are now residents of this part of the state.

Warren Rowell became a resident of this county in April, 1853. He landed on Wabasha prairie and staid there with his family for about a month. During that time he occupied a part of the shanty built by Mr. Stevens the year before for Mr. Goddard. Late in the fall Mrs. Goddard had built a house on the southeast corner of Franklin and Front streets, where she lived during the winter.

Finding no better accommodations, Mr. Rowell fixed up a part of the Stevens shanty as a place for his family to stay in for a few weeks, until he could select a location suitable for a farm. The other end of the shanty (a long building) was used as a barn, or place for the storage of hay and corn. This building was afterward burned by a prairie fire.

Mr. Rowell selected a claim next above Gorr's, in what is now Pleasant Valley, built a log house, and moved there about the first of June. Some of the settlers from the prairie went out and helped raise his cabin. The claim he made in the spring of 1853 he still occupies; it is the farm where he now resides, and has been his home about thirty years. The claim shanty—the log cabin of early days—has been superseded by more modern buildings. Large barns and outbuildings have taken the place of the pole sheds covered with wild grass.

Mr. Rowell was among the earlier settlers in this county to locate on farming lands as a home. By attentively minding his

own business he has made farming a profitable business in the valley where he lives.

In May, 1853, Dr. John L. Balcombe returned to Wabasha prairie from Illinois, where he had spent the winter. When he left, in the fall previous, he sold out his interest here, including his houses, to Edwin Hamilton, retaining his shanty on the acre given him by Johnson. During the winter Ed. Hamilton had used his dwelling as a stable. When the doctor resumed possession he found it more economical and agreeable to move the cabin to a new locality rather than attempt to remove the refuse and renovate the building as it stood. He occupied this temporarily.

Not liking his location on the acre he had first selected, he abandoned it, and purchased lot 3 in block 9 of Smith and Johnson, for which he paid *twenty dollars*. The deed, a quit-claim, was made September 29, 1853, and filed for record January 25, 1854. He had had possession of the lot for two or three months previous, and built a house on it. This building fronted toward the river, and was designed for a store. It was about 20×40, two stories high. The front of the lower story was finished with large windows and folding doors. On the east side of the building a lean-to was attached, about 12×24. Before it was completed Dr. Balcombe sold this structure to Horace Ranney, but did not deliver possession of it until the spring of 1854. It was afterward known as the "Ranney Building," and was used for quite a variety of purposes — as a private dwelling, for offices, as a hotel, and lastly as a tenement house for several families. It was burned in the fire of 1862.

Early in the summer of 1853 (July 11) Dr. Balcombe bought an undivided half of twenty acres of the Beecher Gere claim, east of the eighty sold to A. M. Fridley, and of twenty acres west of the Fridley claim. The other half of these two lots was purchased by Sanborn and Colburn. He also made a claim on the upper prairie, where Charles Riley now lives. This he afterward improved, and built the farmhouse now standing, which he occupied at the time of his death, September 24, 1856. Although poor health prevented Dr. Balcombe from being prominent, he took an active interest in the development of this part of the territory and in the political questions of his day. M. Wheeler Sargent says, in his historical address, "Dr. John L. Balcombe was a man of the most extended information of any among the early settlers, \* \* \* one of the *first and best* of our early citizens."

George H. Sanborn came into the county early in the spring of 1853 and settled on Wabasha prairie. Soon after Wm. H. Colborn came on and joined him here. About the middle of June these two young men opened the first store in the county, with a general assortment of goods. For temporary occupancy, the "car-house" of Denman was moved to lot 5, block 10, and covered with a shingled roof. They here commenced business as Sanborn & Colborn. During the summer they built a store on the corner of the same lot, about 20×40, two stories high, and continued in business until the spring of 1854, when Mr. Colborn withdrew and a new firm was formed, consisting of G. H. Sanborn and M. K. Drew. E. L. King became a partner the same spring. They carried on the business during that season and then sold their stock of goods to Dr. Childs, who continued business for a short time in the same location. In 1855 Sanborn & King started in the forwarding and commission and wholesale and retail grocery business at the foot of Johnson street.

Mr. Sanborn in 1856 built a very large three-story building on the river, at the foot of Washington street, which was known as Sanborn's warehouse. The third story of this building was used as a hall for public meetings. It was fitted up with a stage and scenery by the Philharmonic Society soon after it was first organized, and used by them until they moved to their present location. The building was torn down many years ago by the railroad company, into whose possession the property passed.

Soon after he came here in 1853 Mr. Sanborn purchased the Viets claim and subsequently had it surveyed and plotted. It is now known as Sanborn's addition. He built his first residence on this claim in 1855, a small story-and-a-half house, on the corner of Lafayette and Wabasha streets. It is yet standing, and forms a part of the present residence of J. L. Brink. Mr. Sanborn was engaged in business for several years in Winona. About 1859 he closed up his affairs here and went east to live. He is now in Northern Dakota, where it is reported that he has made some fortunate speculations as a pioneer in that locality.

As an incident of early days, an adventure of Mr. Sanborn's, brought to the mind of the writer, is thought worthy of notice. Mr. Sanborn was the owner of a pair of fine driving-horses. One of these was a valuable horse, which he used as a saddle-horse. Although broken to harness, he had nothing that he considered

suitable to drive him in during the winter. Having business in St. Paul, he adopted the idea of taking his horse with him and bringing back a stylish cutter. There was not sufficient snow to drive up, and he proposed to ride his horse to St. Paul.

On the first of January, 1855, he started on his trip, taking along a new single-harness, with blankets and a buffalo-skin, on which he proposed to ride, instead of a saddle, expecting to reach Wabasha that day. He went up Straight slough on the ice. When he reached Haddock slough, about where S. M. Burns lost his horses two years before, his horse broke through the ice, which was thin at that place, and took Mr. Sanborn into the water with him. With some difficulty he crawled out on the ice, which was brittle and gave way to his weight. He was within about twenty rods of the shore, for which he was headed when the accident occurred.

The day was intensely cold, with a piercing wind, and a cold bath was far from agreeable with the thermometer showing zero. His horse remained afloat and broke the ice in his efforts to climb out after his master. Mr. Sanborn hastened to the shore and procured some logs of wood and rocks, with which he broke the ice and opened a channel to where the water was less than two feet deep. The intelligent animal followed him closely, but was unable to climb out on the ice. He was chilled through by the length of time he had been in the water. Mr. Sanborn was completely exhausted from the fatigue and cold, he having slipped in several times while breaking the ice.

Feeling benumbed and unable to do more for his horse, he started off for help. When he reached Mr. Burley's, nearly a mile below, he was almost unconscious. His clothing was frozen stiff and solid, and he was compelled to crawl on his hands and knees to reach the house. He was taken care of, and men went up to help the horse, if he was not beyond help. They found him dead. Mr. Sanborn had loosened the harness and blankets while the horse was in the deep water, and they had floated away under the ice.

Mr. Sanborn recovered from his exposure with some frost-bites, but without any serious illness following. He returned to Winona as soon as he was able to be moved, which was in a day or two after, and sent to St. Paul for his cutter, which was brought down by the mail-carrier. His second-best horse was promoted and became the pet.

William Davidson came into this county April 6, 1853. After



some time spent in prospecting and explorations in the western part of the county, he selected a claim at the head of a small branch of the White Water, in what is now the town of St. Charles, on Sec. 10, T. 106, R. 10. He returned to Clayton county, Iowa, where his family were then living, and made his arrangement to transport them with his household goods, farming implements and live stock, up through the country to the location he had selected in Minnesota as his future home.

Mr. Davidson started with four yoke of oxen and three wagons; these, with his cows and young stock, and a saddle-pony used to collect the cattle, made up quite an immigrant train. They came into this county on the "old government trail,"—the trail over which the Winnebagoes were taken when removed from Iowa to Long Prairie in 1848, up through Money Creek valley and out on the ridge near the head of Burns valley. They then went west, keeping on the high land to avoid the ravines leading into the Rolling Stone, to Bentleys, now Utica, and reached their destination about the first of June. They were eleven days making this trip of about 125 miles.

Mr. Davidson was the first settler to come into the county by the "overland route." He immediately set his breaking team to work and put in a field of seed-corn and planted a garden. He built a commodious log house, making a trip to Winona in the latter part of June for lumber to complete it. Until their log house was ready for occupancy they lived in camp with but temporary shelter. He raised a good crop of corn and vegetables the first season, sufficient for his own use. The cornmeal used in his family was ground by hand in a large coffee-mill.

Mr. Davidson here opened up a large farm, and in early days was prominently active in public affairs relative to the development of the county. He was county commissioner and held other official positions. He is now a resident of the city of St. Charles.

L. H. Springer and Benjamin Langworthy landed on Wabasha prairie on May 31, 1853. They brought with them their families and four yoke of oxen, three horses, eight cows and other animals, and also two wagons. Mr. Laird gave them the use of his shanty for temporary occupancy until they found satisfactory locations. They made claims on the White Water, and moved there with their families about the middle of June.

L. H. Springer settled at what is now the village of St. Charles.

He built a large, substantial log house and comfortable stables, and opened up a farm in this locality. This log house was used as a hotel for two or three years. "Springer's" was a favorite stopping place for all who had business in that vicinity. These were the only settlers in the west part of the county in 1853.

In the fall of 1854 L. H. Springer, George H. Sanborn and M. Wheeler Sargent, laid out the land claimed by Springer as a town site, and gave it the name of St. Charles. It was advertised as being "on the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 19, T. 106, R. 10, twenty-five miles west from Winona on the south fork of the Meniska or White Water river, in the midst of as good farming lands as can be found anywhere." Mr. Springer was prominently active in all measures to promote the general good. He, with William Davidson, was the first to open a wagon trail from St. Charles to Winona. Mr. Springer lived at St. Charles for several years and then removed to Olmsted county, where he yet resides.

Alexander McClintock came into the county this season and settled on a claim in the south Rolling Stone valley, above Putnams. He built a log house, and pre-empted this as a homestead after, and lived here with his family for several years, until his death. None of his family are now residents of the county.

Henry D. Huff landed on Wabasha prairie Sunday, June 26, 1853. He stopped at the Winona House, then kept by E. H. Murray. It was supposed at the time that he came to assume charge of Capt. Smith's interest in the town, which his son, S. J. Smith, was then here looking after. He purchased an undivided interest in the original town plot of Smith and Johnson, and later in the season also purchased the claim of Ed. Hamilton—claim No. 5. Hamilton had previously sold undivided interests to others; Mark Howard held a third; David Olmsted and Orlando Stevens held an interest. Through an arrangement with Hamilton and the others the whole claim was transferred to Mr. Huff, who at once had it surveyed and plotted, and recorded with the plot of Smith and Johnson's claim as the "original plot" of the city of Winona.

Mr. Huff built the cottage now occupied by Lafayette Stout, near the corner of Fourth and Huff streets, and brought his family here. He lived in this cottage for several years, when he built the house on the same corner now owned and occupied by Hon. H. W. Lambertson, in which he resided until he left Minnesota. From the first of his coming here he was prominently active in all public enterprises.

Mr. Huff had been in mercantile business in Kenosha, and a dealer in real estate, before coming here. He had prior to that passed some years of pioneer life in Wisconsin and Illinois, and was familiar with early settlements in towns and country. His experience, with his natural sagacity and enterprise and his indomitable will power, made him a leader in all public matters or affairs in which others were associated with him. His interests were intimately connected with the development and prosperity of the county and city of Winona. There was no one among the pioneer settlers who accomplished so much by his individual efforts to build up the city of Winona as Henry D. Huff. To him more than to any other person this city is justly indebted for its early prosperity and many of its present advantages. It was by him that the name of Winona was substituted for that of Montezuma. It was through his efforts that Fillmore county was divided and Winona county created with the county seat at the village of Winona.

Mr. Huff started the second newspaper in Winona—the first was the “Winona Argus,” edited by Wm. Ashley Jones. The first issue was September 20, 1854. In April, 1855, Mr. Huff issued the first number of the “Winona Express,” edited by W. Creek. In November, 1855, Mr. Huff sold the establishment to W. G. Dye & Co., who started the “Winona Republican.” Soon after D. Sinclair became connected with it, and the paper has since been continuously issued under that name by D. Sinclair & Co. with the addition of a daily paper.

Huff's Hotel was built by Mr. Huff in 1855. In 1857 he built a large flouring-mill near Youmans Bros. & Hodgins' sawmill. It was built at a cost of about \$25,000, and was burned a few years after. He was one of the stockholders in the original Transit Railroad Company.

Mr. Huff sold out the most of his property here about ten years ago and went to Chicago.

The time set by Judge A. G. Chatfield for holding the first session of a district court in what was then Fillmore county was at Wabasha prairie, on Monday, June 27, 1853, but the judge failed to reach Winona on that day. On Tuesday, June 28, he arrived with quite a large party of ladies and gentlemen from St. Paul, among whom were two attorneys, L. A. Babcock and H. L. Moss. He opened court in the Winona House. Wm. B. Gere was appointed clerk of the court. The petit jury was dismissed. The grand jury

was organized and held a sitting on that day. On Wednesday, June 29, the grand jury made a presentment in the case of Erwin H. Johnson, for the shooting of Isaac W. Simonds, and indicted S. M. Burns, of Mt. Vernon (Hall's landing), for selling liquor to the Indians. They were dismissed at noon on that day and the court adjourned. This was the first district court held in southern Minnesota. In the afternoon Judge Chatfield, with the party from St. Paul, visited Minnesota City and the valley of the Rolling Stone.

John Iams was the sheriff in attendance on the court. It is said that the sheriff brought his dinner with him from home each day. On the first day, as he approached the crowd assembled around the Winona House, he was greeted by W. T. Luark, who, with a laugh of ridicule, cried out, "Here comes the great high sheriff of Fillmore county with his dinner pail on his arm!" At noon the same crowd saw the sheriff and Mr. Luark sitting on the bank of the river eating their dinner from the dinner-bucket of the sheriff, and washing it down with river water.

Grove W. Willis came to Wabasha prairie about the first of July of this year. Before coming here he had been promised the position of clerk of the court by Judge Chatfield, but on account of his failure to arrive in time to attend to the duties of the office, the Judge was compelled to appoint Wm. B. Gere to the place. When Judge Chatfield was notified that Mr. Willis was at Winona awaiting his order, he revoked the appointment of Gere and gave the position to Mr. Willis, who was appointed clerk of the district court about the 7th of July.

Mr. Willis brought his family here and rented the building on Front street built by Dr. Balcombe (the Ranney building), where he lived during the winter. He used the lean-to of the building as his office. The same room was also used as a schoolroom for a select school kept by his daughter, now Mrs. Gillett, living in the village of Chatfield. This school is really entitled to be called the first fully established school taught in Winona. It was kept three or four months with about twenty-five pupils.

Mr. Willis lived at Winona during the winter and moved to Chatfield in the spring of 1854. About ten or twelve years ago he returned to Winona, and has since made it his home.

John Keyes came to Winona on September 12, 1853. He landed with his wife and two children at Hamilton's, on the lower end of the prairie. He bought an undivided one-eighth of H. S. Hamilton's



claim, and lived in a part of his house during the winter and following summer. While living here he procured timber and lumber to build a house on the upper part of the claim next below where the Hubbards built their houses. The following season he became dissatisfied with his investment with Mr. Hamilton, and having an opportunity purchased the interest of Captain Smith in claim No. 1, the lower claim. The claim had been divided between Smith and Johnson, Johnson taking the west part, leaving the eastern portion for Captain Smith.

Mr. Keyes at once put up a shanty and took possession. He moved his family there about September 1, 1854, and the same fall built the house in which he lived nearly a score of years before he built the brick house (to which the old one is attached) where his family now resides. John Keyes died in November, 1877. Mr. Keyes was a lawyer by profession, and held his office in his house when he commenced business here. In the fall of 1855 he was appointed clerk in the United States land office by L. D. Smith, the receiver, and continued in that position until the spring of 1857, after the land office was removed to Faribault. He then resumed the practice of law. His office was in a small building on the levee near the Winona House, owned and occupied by John A. Mathews as a real estate and loan office. In 1862 this office was burned. He was afterward one of the firm of Sargent, Franklin & Keyes, and at the time of his death one of the law firm of Keyes & Snow.

From an early day Mr. Keyes took a great interest in the public schools of the city of Winona. He was a director and clerk of the board from the time the first district school was opened until long after the present system was established. The city of Winona is more indebted to John Keyes for its present system of graded schools than to any other one person among the pioneer settlers or citizens of more modern days.

M. Wheeler Sargent came to Winona in this year. His arrival, given in his address, from which quotations have been made, is mentioned as follows: "I first saw this county August 1, 1853, carrying a chain northward between towns 105 of ranges 8 and 9. The first house I saw was that of Wm. Davidson, August 11. Town 105 of ranges 7, 8, 9 and 10 had no occupants. Town 106, of the same ranges, had no inhabitants except L. H. Springer, Wm. Davidson and families, in 106, range 10, and Hull and Bently in range 9.



HON. MILS WHITE.



"Town 107, range 9, had Wm. Sweet and family—107, range 10, none—108, range 10, had John and David Cook. The other settlers of our county were on the Mississippi, or in the immediate valleys of some of its tributaries.

"On the 19th of September of that year the speaker first saw this prairie, coming in from the Gilmore valley. Fancy he made something of a spread that night, for, with a half-dozen others, he slept at full length on the ground, between his present office and the Mississippi, with his hat for a nightcap and boots for a pillow. His toilet he prefers giving in an autobiography when called for; it is not particularly allied to the history of this county."

When Mr. Sargent came into this county he was in the employ of Wm. Ashley Jones, who was engaged in surveying the public lands in this part of the territory. On reaching Wabasha prairie he decided to locate there and establish himself in the practice of his profession as a lawyer. He was appointed district attorney before the county of Fillmore was divided, and after Winona county was created he was elected register of deeds and appointed clerk of the district court. He was the first mayor of the city of Winona; he was also a member of the legislature from this county. When he first came here he began the practice of law by himself; in 1855 he was of the law firm of Sargent, Wilson & Windom, and at the time of his death, which occurred in 1866, he was one of the firm of Sargent, Franklin & Keyes.

More extended notices of these two prominent pioneer settlers (John Keyes and M. Wheeler Sargent) would be made if it were not that their biographical sketches will be given under another division of this history.

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## CHAPTER XXXV.

### A CELEBRATION.

THE fourth of July, 1853, was celebrated with a great deal of patriotic enthusiasm at Minnesota City. The settlers of Rolling Stone invited the citizens of Wabasha prairie to join them in the customary honors and hospitalities of "independence day." The invitation was accepted, and many from the prairie were in attend-



ance. The occasion was said to have been one of unusual interest and gratification to the settlers assembled.

The celebration was held in "the public square," under the oaks. The introductory was the following song, written by Robert Pike, Jr., the poet of the colony. It was sung to the tune of "Baker's Farewell":

"We've left the homes our childhood loved,  
The friends we never can forget;  
The friends that long, long years have proved,  
The friends who still in dreams are met.

We've come to make us other homes,  
On Minnesota's garden lands,  
Where ev'ry gen'rous heart that comes  
Is met by loving hearts and hands.

What though the red-man roams the woods,  
And wild and rude the landscape seems;  
Is it not fairer than it stood,  
As seen in fancy's brightest dreams?

What though our domes are all unrequited,  
And labor in our pathway lies;  
Labor is pleasant, when 'tis cheered  
By helping hands and loving eyes.

No greener valleys meet the sight,  
No purer fountains, gushing free,  
No birds of song, or flowers more bright,  
Bringing perfume and melody.

Hurra! then, for our chosen home,  
While bound by friendship's silken bond;  
Our feet no more shall seek to roam,  
Our hearts shall never more despond."

The orator of the day was Egbert Chapman, who, it is said, gave an admirable and exceedingly appropriate address. He was followed by Robert Pike, Jr., who became really eloquent in his remarks, which were listened to with pleased expressions by the assemblage.

An elegant repast was furnished by the ladies, to which all were invited. The concourse then adjourned from "the park" to the tables prepared under the shade of the walnuts, where ample justice was awarded the good things provided. After all were satisfied, volunteer toasts were drank from glasses filled with pure cold water plentifully furnished.

Toasts were given by Robert Pike, Jr., Edwin Hamilton, W. H. Colburn, R. Taylor, O. M. Lord, T. K. Allen, S. J. Smith, and others. Some of them are given to show the character of the entertainment.

The first was by Robert Pike, Jr.: "The ladies. May they ever be pure, as our own bright fountains; beautiful, as our wild flowers; as even of temper as our own delightful climate (except the thunderstorms), and as fruitful as the soil to which they have been transplanted."

The second was by Edwin Hamilton: "Superior cookery. The art that makes us happy, and that none better understand than the ladies of Minnesota City."

The third was by W. H. Colburn: "The motto of our glorious country, 'Union is Strength.' Minnesota City and Winona,—may they be ever thus united is the earnest wish of Winona to-day."

The sixth was by Robert Pike, Jr.: "Winona and Minnesota City. May all the rivalry which exists between them be the rivalry of good neighborhood, and the desire to excel in offices of kindness and humanity."

The eighth was by T. K. Allen: "Peace, prosperity and equality. May it long be enjoyed in Minnesota."

The twelfth was by E. Chapman: "The glorious 4th of July. May the remembrance of the day ever be in the hearts of the people."

The thirteenth was by O. M. Lord: "Winona. Like her namesake, wild and beautiful, may she prosper till the height of her aspiration is amply rewarded."

The eighteenth was by S. J. Smith: "Here is to Minnesota City from her eldest daughter, Winona. Although the Dark Water city, yet her waters are clear and sparkling; and to its men, who being Rolling Stone men, yet gather commercial moss; and to its ladies, who are blooming."

Another by O. M. Lord: "The Mississippi river, the highway of the nation. As long as the water flows in its channel may her valleys annually resound with the sound of cannon proclaiming the independence of the American people."

The day's enjoyment closed with another song written by Robert Pike, Jr. This was the first time the "Glorious Fourth" was ever celebrated in southern Minnesota.

July 9 the board of county commissioners of Fillmore county

met at the Winona hotel, and divided the county into precincts and appointed judges of election.

The part of the county north of a line west from a point five miles below the town plat of Mt. Vernon on the Mississippi river to the west line of the county was called Mt. Vernon precinct. James Kirkman and Louis Krutzly, living at the mouth of the White Water, and A. P. Hall, of Mt. Vernon, were appointed judges of election. This precinct had twelve legal voters.

The Minnesota City precinct was the next south of the Mt. Vernon precinct. The judges of election were H. B. Waterman, O. H. Hauk and E. B. Drew. This had the largest number of voters of any precinct.

The Winona precinct included Wabasha prairie only. The judges of election were Harvey Hubbard, O. S. Holbrook and George F. Childs.

The Minneowah precinct extended south to a line due west from a point on the Mississippi opposite the mouth of Black river to the west line of the county. The line between this and the Minnesota City precinct was not defined. The judges of election were W. B. Bunnell, of Bunnell's landing, James F. Toms, of Minneowah, and William Hewitt, of Burns valley. This had sixteen voters.

The Root River precinct was between the south line of the Minneowah precinct and a line west from the mouth of Root river to the west line of the county. The judges of election were G. W. Gilfillan, Joseph Brown and John L. Looney. It had ten legal voters.

The Brownsville precinct was all of the county lying between the Root River precinct at the Iowa state line. The judges of election were Charles Brown, Samuel McPhail and M. C. Young.

At this meeting of the board of commissioners a school district was established at Minnesota City, but no specific boundaries given. It was presumed to include the whole precinct.

A petition for a public road from Winona to Minnesota City was received and the following examiners appointed — Harvey Hubbard and E. B. Drew. These road examiners were to meet on Tuesday, July 19, at Minnesota City. C. R. Coryell, of Rolling Stone, was appointed county surveyor.

The next meeting of the board was at the Winona House, on July 22, 1853. At this meeting Gere and Luark were present. In the absence of Mr. Stall, the commissioners appointed Sylvester J. Smith clerk of the board pro tem.

"The examiners of the road between Minnesota City and Winona reported that they had located the road. The report was received, examined and fully accepted, and an order issued to the county surveyor to locate and survey the same."

This was the first public road officially located in the county. The above copy of the record is the only documentary evidence of the fact. All books and papers relative to the proceedings of this board of county commissioners were taken to Chatfield, the first county seat of Fillmore county. Mr. E. B. Drew, one of the examiners, says the road was surveyed and located about where the present road from Minnesota City to Winona is now laid. It was resurveyed after Winona county was created.

\* The first general election held in the county was on the second Tuesday, the 11th of October, 1853. At this general election Hon. H. M. Rice was elected delegate to congress from the Territory of Minnesota. Hon. O. M. Lord was elected a representative to the territorial legislature from this representative district. In January, 1854, when Mr. Lord attended the fifth legislature to which he was elected, he walked from Minnesota City to St. Paul for that purpose.

At this election the following officers were elected in Fillmore county: county attorney, Andrew Cole; judge of probate, H. B. Waterman; register of deeds, William B. Gere; sheriff, John Iams; county commissioners, John C. Laird, Robert Pike, Jr., and W. B. Bunnell.

The justices of the peace elected were—for Wabasha prairie, George M. Gere and Wm. H. Stevens (Mr. Stevens had previously served as justice of the peace. He was appointed in July, 1853, by Governor Gorman); for Minnesota City, H. B. Waterman and Robert Pike, Jr.; for Mt. Vernon, S. M. Burns; for Minneowah, Mynon Lewis.

Among the settlers who came into the county later in this season were Mathew Ewing, Dr. Allen, E. S. Smith, A. C. Smith, James McClellan, Luke Blair, G. W. Wiltse, Lysander Kately, James Worrall, George Gay and T. B. Twiford.

Mathew Ewing settled on H. S. Hamilton's claim, where he built a comfortable frame house and opened a store with a fair assortment of goods. He sold goods during the winter and in the spring closed out his stock and gave up the business. He then located himself in the village and purchased two lots on the corner of Third and John-



son streets, and also a lot on the corner of Johnson and Front streets, where he built the building now standing on it. After two or three years here he sold out and left the county.

James McClellan brought a stock of goods with him and opened a store in the front part of the main portion of the residence of Rev. E. Ely, which was built this year. Mr. McClellan remained here until early in the spring, when he moved his family and goods to Chatfield.

Dr. Allen (his initials are unknown to the writer) came here and located himself as a practicing physician. He was the first to settle in the county to make that profession his special business. He remained here until the spring of 1854, when he moved to Chatfield.

E. S. Smith bought an interest in the Stevens claim, and for a year or two lived in Winona, dealing in real estate, etc. He married Miss Mary Burns, and settled in Burns valley, where he built the Glen Flouring Mill. He remained there several years and then sold out and moved to Winona, where his family yet resides. Mr. Smith went to Washington Territory, where he was for awhile connected with the western portion of the North Pacific railroad. Although he occasionally visits his home in Minnesota, he is yet engaged in business in Washington Territory, which requires his personal attention there much of his time.

Andrew C. Smith settled in Winona. In 1855 he started the first drug store ever opened in the county. After several years' residence here he moved to Stockton. He was a member of the State legislature from this county in 1869. He is now a resident of Rochester, Olmsted county.

L. D. Smith visited Wabasha prairie during the fall and winter of 1853, but did not bring his family here to live until the spring of 1854. He purchased the "Fridley claim" and built a house on it, where he lived several years. This house is yet standing near the corner of Franklin and Wabasha streets. He then moved to his farm in the south Rolling Stone valley about half a mile above the village of Stockton, where he lived at the time of his death. He was appointed receiver in the United States land office in 1854, and was one of the most active in securing the land grant for the benefit of the railroads in this state. Further mention will be made of him in other divisions of this history.

Wm. Ashley Jones was a deputy United States surveyor. During the summer of 1853 he was engaged in the survey of

public lands in southern Minnesota. In the fall of this year he visited Wabasha prairie, and in the spring following moved his family there and made Winona his home for about ten years, when he moved to Dubuque. He is now a resident of Dakota.

Mr. Jones held an undivided interest in the Smith and Johnson town plot, and also an interest in the Stevens claim (Stevens' addition). He opened up a large farm in the town of St. Charles. It is now known as the "Lamberton Farm." Besides dealing in real estate, Mr. Jones found time and means to start the first newspaper published in the county, "The Winona Argus."

Luke Blair came to Wabasha prairie in the fall of this year. He bought two lots on the corner of Center and Second streets, where the "Simpson Block" now stands. He brought with him a small drove of cattle, which he wintered in stables built on the back part of these lots. He made a claim in what is now the town of Saratoga, but did not occupy it until the following season. Early in the spring of 1854 he built a store on lot 4, block 16, and brought on a stock of general merchandise.

During the summer he moved his family out on his claim. In the fall he sold the two lots with his store building to W. G. Dye, who sold them to V. Simpson, the present owner, and sold his stock of goods to James H. Jacoby, who continued the business in the same locality under the name of Day & Co. The upper part of Blair's building was used as a public hall. Meetings were held here until it was used as a printing-office by Wm. Ashley Jones. This was where the "Winona Argus" was started, with Samuel Melvin as associate editor and foreman in the office. W. G. Dye set the first type for this paper.

Mr. Blair settled on his claim, which has been his permanent home. The vicinity was long known as the Blair settlement. Mr. Wiltse and Mr. Kately made claims in that part of the county, and wintered there in 1853-4.

George Gay made a claim in Burns valley, on what was afterward known as the Sailsbury Place. He remained here a year or two and moved to Wabasha county. James Worrall settled in Winona, and about two years after went to Wabasha county.

## CHAPTER XXXVI.

### CHATFIELD SETTLED AND WINONA COUNTY ORGANIZED.

IN the fall of this year, 1853, T. B. Twiford came into this county from Lansing, Iowa. In his prospecting excursions and explorations he discovered the present site of Chatfield, in the northern part of Fillmore county, and conceived the project of making it a town site. At Winona he formed the acquaintance of Grove W. Willis, and a scheme was concocted to form a stock company and make Twiford's newly-discovered town site the county seat of Fillmore county.

The plan proposed was to divide the stock into twelve shares. The shareholders were T. B. Twiford, G. W. Willis, H. C. Gere, Myron Toms, William B. Gere, Harvey Hubbard, John I. Hubbard, Robert Pike, Jr., James McClellan and W. B. Bunnell. It was designed that each of the members of the board of county commissioners should be presented with a share in the new town site—the proposed county seat, but Mr. Luark of the appointed board was absent from the territory, and John C. Laird, of the newly-elected board was too strongly interested in Winona to be utilized. Neither of these men were shareholders in the project.

Twiford and Willis put up a log shanty on the proposed town site, to which they gave the name of Chatfield, and placed a man by the name of Case in the shanty temporarily, to hold the locality for the company. It was generally known that the members of the old board of county commissioners, Gere and Toms, whose term of office expired on January 1, 1854, were in favor of locating the county seat in the locality selected by Mr. Twiford, but it was considered extremely doubtful if they had any authority to act in the matter. The law provided that it should be the duty of the first board of county commissioners elected to locate the county seat. The first board had been appointed by the governor as provided by the act creating Fillmore county.

In furtherance of the plan of Twiford and Willis the appointed board assumed the authority to locate the county seat, although it was generally conceded by everybody that this power belonged to the first elected board.

The following entry was made on the record of the proceedings of the county commissioners by the clerk :

Pursuant to agreement, the commissioners of Fillmore county, Minnesota Territory, on December 19, A.D. 1853, at the residence of Mr. Case, in Root River precinct, in the town of Chatfield—present Henry C. Gere and Myron Toms. The object of said meeting was to locate the county seat of said Fillmore county, pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided. It was then and there resolved that the county seat should be located at Chatfield, in the center of section 6, town 104 north, of range 11 west. Then the commissioners adjourned, to meet at the residence of W. B. Bunnell, in Minneowah, on Tuesday, December 27, A.D. 1853.

G. W. WILLIS,

Clerk County Commissioners, pro tem.

The commissioners Gere and Toms met at Bunnell's on the 27th of December, 1853, and appointed C. F. Buck clerk of the board. They here audited the accounts of county officers presented, and issued county orders to the amount of \$411.47. This was the last meeting of this board of commissioners.

At the time, the county seat of Fillmore county was located at what is now Chatfield. The nearest settler was at Springer's, now St. Charles. There was not even a claim shanty within ten miles of the log pen designated as "the residence of Mr. Case." It was then considered uncertain whether the county seat was located within the western boundary of Fillmore county.

It was estimated that on January 1, 1854, there were about 800 inhabitants within the present boundaries of Winona county. This is thought to be a liberal estimate and probably a large excess over actual numbers.

The board of county commissioners of Fillmore county elected October 11, 1853, met at the house of Robert Pike, Jr., in Minnesota City January 2, 1854. Robert Pike, Jr., John C. Laird and W. B. Bunnell were present. The register of deeds, W. B. Gere, clerk of the board, was also present. The board was organized by electing W. B. Bunnell chairman. This session of the board continued two days. It is evident from the records that considerable business was done.

The following extract was copied from the record : "The board then proceeded to ballot for the location of the county seat, which resulted in one vote for Winona, one vote for Chatfield and one vote for Minnesota City. As the board could not agree upon the location, they decided that the locating should be postponed until a future meeting."



Aside from the stock company, the shareholders, there was not a settler in the county that favored the location of the county seat at Chatfield. Meetings were held at Minnesota City, Winona and Minneowah condemning the action of the appointed board, but each locality instructed its representative commissioner to locate the county seat at his own home or place, and under no circumstances to give it to a rival town.

Mr. Sinclair says in his historical sketch in 1876: "At these meetings the commissioner from Minnesota City, Mr. Pike, was instructed by his constituents to vote for the location of the county seat at that place, and in no event at Winona; but if it became necessary for him to exercise discretionary power in making a second choice, to vote in favor of Chatfield. The reason is obvious: the location at Chatfield, upon the division of the county, would give Minnesota City another chance, whereas locating the county seat at Winona would forever debar Minnesota City from securing the coveted prize. The same reasoning led Bunnell, from his standpoint, to operate in like manner in favor of that other rival of Winona, the much-vaunted Minneowah."

While each of the rival localities was clamorous for the county seat, without a prospect of either securing it, there were conservative men in each locality who favored a division of the county rather than have the county seat located at Chatfield, as indications showed it would be. This was most strongly advocated at Winona. H. D. Huff assumed the leadership of this scheme for the purpose of securing the county seat at his town. It was found that Mr. Lord, the representative in the territorial legislature from this district, although a resident of Minnesota City, was in favor of a division of Fillmore county, and promised his aid. He gave Mr. Huff what he considered the proper boundaries for a new county—the same that are now the boundaries of Winona county.

Every means available was brought to bear to induce commissioners Bunnell and Pike to cast their vote for Winona. Friendship and diplomacy failed to win the desired vote. There was no compromise with Bunnell. It was said that a bribe of a block of land was offered to Robert Pike, Jr., from two prominent citizens of Winona, in consideration of his vote, which he indignantly refused to accept.

On January 7 the board met at the office of John C. Laird and accomplished considerable business, but failed to settle the county-

seat question. The following extract from record shows the financial condition of the county: "There being no receipts, the liabilities of the county at this date, by reference to the bills on file, is \$536.86."

M. Wheeler Sargent says in his address: "L. H. Springer and myself met H. D. Huff at his residence, where we agreed upon the outlines of a new county, to be called Winona, with exactly its present boundaries. Huff, having the most time and money, agreed to engineer it through the legislature. Upon this mission, armed with a petition having as many names as we thought the population would justify, and the other documents adapted to various supposable emergencies, he started for St. Paul.

On January 30, 1854, the board of county commissioners, pursuant to adjournment, met at the house of Robert Pike, Jr., in Minnesota City, at which meeting Robert Pike, Jr., John C. Laird and W. B. Bunnell, the chairman, were present. The register of deeds, W. B. Gere, was clerk of the board. At this meeting vacancies were filled by the following appointments: M. Wheeler Sargent, district attorney, and C. F. Buck, judge of probate. The clerk was ordered to notify them of their appointments. Robert Pike, Jr., had been appointed county surveyor at a previous meeting.

The all-absorbing topic of conversation, the vexed question of location of the county seat, was settled at this meeting. The following copy of the record of their proceedings shows their action in the matter: "In pursuance of and in accordance with the eighteenth section of the eleventh chapter of the session laws of Minnesota Territory, passed by the legislative assembly at the session commencing January 5, A.D. 1853, the county commissioners proceeded to locate the county seat of Fillmore county. It was decided by the board of commissioners that the county seat of said Fillmore county should be at Chatfield, in said county, on section 6, township 104 north, of range 11 west."

It was charged by some of the disappointed Winonians that John C. Laird sold out his constituents for a share in Chatfield. G. W. Willis, now living in the city of Winona, says this was not so; that Mr. Laird never held a share in the Chatfield Land Company. Although Mr. Twiford was the originator, Mr. Willis was the leader and manager, of the scheme to locate the county seat at Chatfield. He says: "Bunnell and Pike located the county seat

—a majority of the board could do it. I never knew that Laird voted for it, and doubt that he did so, for he always opposed us. None of the commissioners were bribed to vote for it, although everything else was done to influence them. Bunnell and Pike would have voted for Tophet rather than have given it to Winona.”

Mr. G. W. Willis went to St. Paul to procure a charter for the Chatfield Land Company, and to defeat the proposed division of the county. He was successful in securing the charter for the company from the legislature, then in session, but his influence there was insufficient to prevent the passage of the act creating Winona county.

The bill for the division of Fillmore county and forming of the present county of Winona was introduced and supported by Hon. O. M. Lord, in the house. He was strongly backed by H. D. Huff as a lobby member and general manager. Winona county was created by act of the territorial legislature February 23, 1854.

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## CHAPTER XXXVII.

### THE DISTRICT SCHOOLS OF WINONA COUNTY.

WINONA COUNTY was formed by the territorial legislature of 1854, from a part of Fillmore county, which had previously comprised the southeastern portion of the state. The first permanent settlements were made along the Mississippi river in the spring of 1852. There was no school taught in what is now Winona county during that summer. A subscription school was opened for a term of three months in the autumn by Miss Ann Orton, with an attendance of about twenty pupils, at Minnesota City. July 9, 1853, a school district was formed by the county commissioners at Minnesota City, and organized under the territorial law, and Miss Hester A. Houck was employed to teach. The term began October 31 and continued thirteen weeks. The names and ages of the children that attended this term of school are given from the rate bill, by which the wages of the teacher were collected. The sum agreed upon was \$48. There were twenty-seven pupils, eighteen of whom are now living (1883). The list is as follows: Mathew Foster,\* age 11 years;

\* Dead.

George Foster\*, 6 ; Milo Campbell, 7 ; Thomas Thorpe, 8 ; Robert Thorpe, 6 ; John Thorpe, 13 ; William Thorpe,\* 3 ; Mary E. Cotton, 5 ; Randolph Wright,\* 12 ; Dan'l W. Wright, 9 ; John H. Wright ; Edith Pike,\* 11 ; Emma Pike, 8 ; Charlotte Denman,\* 9 ; Mary E. Denman, 5 ; James L. Denman, 7 ; Robert S. Denman,\* 3 ; Chas. Kellogg, 15 ; Rollin Hotchkiss, 13 ; Robert Hotchkiss, 13 ; Lycurgus Luark, 11 ; Achilles Luark,\* 5 ; Elbridge G. Lord,\* 4 ; David Imes, 13 ; Samuel Imes, 7 ; Herman Hopson, 6 ; Gerlana McClintock, 12. This school district was designated as No. 1. May 1, 1854, a petition was presented and district No. 2 was formed, comprising the town of Winona, and on June 5 following No. 3 was formed, comprising the north part of township 105 and the whole of 106, range 10. At a meeting of the county commissioners held July 3, 1854, the whole amount of tax authorized to be raised for school purposes for the current year was \$152.05. In October district No. 4 was formed at Dakota precinct. Schools were opened in Nos. 2, 3 and 4 before the districts were formally organized, and the wages of the teachers were paid by rate bill or by subscription. No. 1 was for this year the only one that reported a three months' term to the state department. At the January meeting of the county commissioners, 1855, the boundaries of No. 1 were designated. Voting precincts had at first been established by the governor, and were afterward so established by the county commissioners, and the first school districts embraced the election precincts which were not clearly defined. At this meeting No. 2 was divided. July 3 the amount of school-tax voted was \$632.34. At one of the meetings in this year a district was organized at Springers', or St. Charles, and one in Lanes' Valley, New Hartford township, one at Geo. Wiltzies' in Saratoga, and one in Whitewater at John Cook's. The school districts of the county now numbered eight. At the January meeting of 1856 they were increased to fifteen ; at the April meeting to twenty-three ; at the July meeting to thirty-five.

At the January meeting of 1856 the first record was made of the distribution of the school money. The amount collected was \$1,336.47, which was apportioned among thirteen districts.

At the meetings of 1857 the number of districts increased to forty-eight. January 9, 1858, the county treasurer reported as

\* Dead.



apportioned among thirty-five districts \$3,533.50. The largest sum to one district was \$662, the smallest was \$22.

The apparently unequal distribution of this fund gave rise to much dissatisfaction. The distribution was based upon the number of residents of each district between the ages of five and twenty-one. In many cases district boundaries were not definitely recorded, and it was claimed that the residents were more than once reported. It was also claimed that some districts, instead of revising the lists from year to year, simply added new names each year to the reported list, and consequently drew more money than they were legally entitled to. At the last meeting of the school board for the year 1858 the districts numbered sixty-two, an increase of fourteen for the year.

The amount of money apportioned among forty-seven districts for the year 1859 was \$662. There were some complaints in regard to this distribution, as the organized districts numbered sixty-five, and while one district drew \$90.75 another only received \$3.85 ; but as the county business was now transacted by the chairman of the township supervisors, and each town in the county was represented, there was no cause of complaint, except as to unfair reports of residents of districts.

The first record of the number of persons upon which the apportionment was based was made at the January meeting of this year (1859), the number recorded being 2,392. This was the number reported by the forty-seven districts, upon which the apportionment was made, although there were eighteen more organized at the time. During the year ten more were added to that number, making in all seventy-five, showing a remarkable growth for the two years.

The school tax, as reported by the finance committee of the county board for the year 1859, was \$5,346.37.

In 1860 the legislature changed the law in regard to county boards, and the commissioner system was again adopted, and the county treasurer, in his report to the board, February 1, 1860, reported as school money on hand \$2,967.72, and in March following an apportionment of \$4,480.96 was made among the districts, which reported 2,724 persons of schoolable age.

March 7, 1861, the school law was materially changed by the legislature in regard to forming school districts, etc. There was a revision of the whole code, which was framed from that of the

State of Michigan. In unorganized townships the county commissioners were authorized to form districts, but where townships were organized the supervisors had authority to change boundaries, to form new districts, to levy taxes, to appoint a town superintendent and to direct the collection of taxes through the town treasurers.

The legislature having neglected to provide for blank books, reports, records, etc., there was no uniformity of reports or records. In some towns the teachers were licensed and the school business transacted without regard to any particular form or system, and if any records were made they have not been preserved.

Although the law required that existing boundaries of districts should remain if practicable, the loose records and changes, and want of system, involved the district boundaries in great confusion. Township lines interfered with district authority, and under this law districts were divided and new ones created without regard to designation by numbers as recorded in the county auditor's office. Owing to this condition of things it was found difficult to properly and legally levy school district taxes and to collect delinquencies. The delinquent taxes were reported by the town treasurer to the county auditor to collect with the county taxes, which placed a part of the fund in the hands of the county treasurer.

When districts were without funds to pay their teachers, orders were issued upon the district treasury, whether the particular district was entitled to any money from the county treasury or not. If the county treasurer had no fund collected for that district the orders were usually sold to outside parties at a discount. The collection of these orders gave teachers a good deal of trouble. It was said that the county treasurer always stood behind outside parties in buying them at a discount, and that the district accounts were not properly adjusted. This system was not satisfactory to the people. Some of the local boards would not levy a sufficient tax to maintain good schools, and, owing to delinquencies, funds could not at all times be made available.

There are very few names on record of town superintendents. Among them are found Charles Heublin, A. T. Castle, William Murray and Milton Buswell.

From the years 1861 to 1866 there was no material change in the school work. The attention of the people was directed almost wholly to the war, and little or no attention was in some places paid to school matters. January 4, 1866, the county board appointed to

the county superintendency Albert Thomas, salary fixed at \$1,200 per year. Mr. Thomas had taught the village school at Stockton for several terms. He was the principal of the first high school in Winona City, and was known as a teacher of marked ability. A previous business engagement prevented him from accepting the appointment. May 22, 1866, the county was divided into five commissioner districts, and a school examiner appointed for each district, in lieu of township supervision. Geo. P. Wilson was appointed for No. 1, V. J. Walker No. 2, M. R. Lair No. 3, Thomas P. Dixon No. 4, and Henry Gage No. 5. Under the operation of this plan the experience was found to be dearly bought. Certificates of qualification to teach were obtained by asking for them. "There was no definite standard of examination and no uniformity among examiners. They were not required to visit the schools, or to exert any official influence for their welfare, and they felt no responsibility for the work of the persons licensed." There being no unity nor system, no reliable statistics could be gathered from the districts and no groundwork laid for improvement. The county board now consisted of J. J. Randall (chairman), P. P. Hubbell, Collins Rice, H. C. Jones and S. W. Gleason. After much discussion, and owing mainly to the influence of Mr. Randall, it was resolved to change the plan of school work, and at a meeting of the board, September 7, 1867, a resolution was adopted to organize the school work of the county under a provision of the school law of 1864, providing for a county superintendency, in lieu of the general law as specified in section 28 of the same act. In this resolution was also embodied the appointment of Luther A. West as school superintendent, to hold his office until January, 1868, at an annual salary of \$1,000. January 1, 1868, Mr. West was reappointed to serve until January, 1869. Mr. West entered upon the duties of his office in 1867. He was a good scholar, a teacher of large experience, and was well qualified to perform the duties of the office. A great deal of the work required was of the missionary order, as the teachers and the people did not clearly understand the duties of the superintendent. Mr. West met with considerable opposition at first.

Some persons supposed that the whole school authority was transferred from the district officers to the superintendent. Some were opposed on account of the large salary, and some regarded the office as entirely useless. Mr. West made his first special effort in the direction of improving the scholarship and methods of the

teachers, in which he was very successful, and as the people became acquainted with his plan of work his efforts were appreciated and cordially seconded.

The first teachers' institute held in Winona county was organized by Mr. West, assisted by Prof. Wm. F. Phelps and his corps of instructors of the normal school. It was held at St. Charles, in October, 1867, with twenty-three teachers in attendance, and was considered very profitable to those in attendance.

From the annual report for the year 1868 it is shown that ten good, attractive and convenient schoolhouses have been built this year, at a cost of \$11,000; also a building at St. Charles for the graded school, at a cost of \$15,000. During this year Mr. West made a strong effort to secure greater regularity of attendance on the part of the pupils, and to awaken a deeper interest in the schools on the part of parents. That he succeeded in doing a good work in this direction will be seen from the statistical reports to the state superintendent. The average daily attendance for the year 1867, winter and summer terms being 2,699, increased in 1868 to 4,393, though the enrollment of pupils in the last year, according to school population, had decreased from 52 per cent in 1867 to 48 per cent in 1868. Excellent schoolhouses were built at Pickwick, Saratoga and Witoka. A teachers' association was formed and meetings were held at four different places in the county. These meetings produced good results. The people became interested and took part in the discussions, and extended to teachers in attendance the hospitalities of their homes.

In October a state teachers' institute was held at St. Charles, with seventy-five in attendance. The exercises were conducted by an able corps of instructors, and diffused among the teachers a great deal of enthusiasm.

October 26, 1869, a county teachers' institute was held at the normal school in Winona, in charge of Prof. Wm. F. Phelps. The attendance numbered 118. The lessons were presented by the teachers of the normal school and of the public schools of Winona. Gymnastic exercises were introduced by Prof. McGibney. Prof. Carson gave instruction in penmanship. On Tuesday evening Dr. Guthrie, of St. Charles, gave a lecture on geology. Prof. Hood, of the city schools, participated in the discussions. On Thursday evening the Hon. Mark H. Dunnell, state superintendent of public instruction, addressed a large audience upon "Education." The



success of this institute was due mainly to the ability, activity and earnest supervision of Prof. Phelps.

In the report of Mr. West for the year ending September 30, 1869, he regrets that he is not able to make the financial part accurate, owing to the errors of district clerks. He reports having granted certificates to eighty-four teachers—twenty-three to males and sixty-one to females; fourteen of first grade, forty-five of second, and twenty-five of third, and in a comparison of the year's work with that of 1867 shows that great progress has been made, not only in the character of the certificates, but in the increased interest in school matters by the parents, as shown by the increase of teachers' wages, and in the discipline, order and conduct of the schools. This improvement he attributes to the institute work and to the influence of professional training of some of the teachers in the normal school. There were eleven new schoolhouses built, at an aggregate cost of \$9,227.

At the legislative session of 1869 the law was changed as to the term of county superintendents, and the county board appointed Mr. West again to serve until April, 1870. At the meeting of the county board in March the Rev. David Burt was appointed, and entered upon the duties of his office April 5, 1870. Mr. Burt had taught in the common schools of Massachusetts for ten years, when he entered upon an academic course to prepare for college. He graduated at Oberlin, Ohio, in 1848, and then spent three years in the theological seminary at Andover, Massachusetts. He removed to Winona in 1858, and took an active part in all educational work; he acted as member of the school board of Winona city, and served as superintendent of its public schools. In 1866 he assumed the duties of general superintendent of the colored schools of Tennessee, where he served for two years. Impaired health compelled him to return to Winona.

His appointment to the county superintendency was considered, and afterward proved to be, a fortunate and wise measure for the public schools. In addition to his great natural ability, he was fortified in the work by a useful and varied experience and untiring energy and faithfulness. He continued to hold the office until appointed by Gov. Davis to the state superintendency in 1875.

Mr. Burt's first public examination for teachers was held at Stockton, April 22, 1870, and before the close of the month others were held at Winona, Fremont, Elba and Witoka. For this year

there were issued 114 certificates ; ninety-three schools were visited and lectures given on "Our Common Schools" at Utica, White-water, Elba, New Hartford, Saratoga, Hillsdale, Lewiston, Stockton, Pickwick, Minnesota City and Dresback ; also in districts Nos. 9 and 74.

From his report to the state department of November 1, 1870, there were ninety-nine organized districts and eight unorganized. The schoolable population was 5,463 ; number enrolled, 4,059.

A teachers' institute in charge of Mr. Burt was held at St. Charles, October 3, 4, 5 and 6, 1871. The enrollment of actual teachers was sixty-five, and the institute was conducted on the plan of class recitations, and was pronounced by all in attendance a decided success. The instructors are named as L. T. Weld, J. R. Richards, E. Holbrook, Miss C. Harding, Miss F. Barber, C. Pickert, G. Olds, Miss E. Fisher, Geo. Wilson, Miss A. Bingham, Miss N. Taft and C. Boyd. There were three evening lectures : on Tuesday evening, on Reading, by Mr. Burt ; on Wednesday, Motions of the Earth, by Mr. Richards ; and on Thursday evening, Our Common Schools, by Hon. Wm. H. Yale.

At the fall examinations of 1874 sixty-one teachers were licensed. The schools, except ten, were visited during the winter following. In the spring of 1875 Mr. Burt, having accepted an appointment as state superintendent, was requested by the county commissioners to grant certificates to a sufficient number of teachers to enable the districts to go on with their schools for the summer terms, or until his successor could be appointed. The school law at this time required a county superintendent to hold a state certificate. Special examiners were appointed and held a meeting in Winona, at which there were only two or three candidates. The successful one was Mr. John M. Cool, of St. Charles, who was then appointed county superintendent by the board. Mr. Cool had received a common school education in Tomkins county, New York, where he had also taught two terms of school. He came to Minnesota in 1857, and taught in St. Charles seven terms of school. He was recognized as a very capable and efficient teacher. Mr. Cool issued two certificates of second grade, four of third and rejected two applicants. He visited a few schools in the beginning of summer, and was taken sick, from which he was unable to do any more school-work. At his death the vacancy was filled, at a special meeting of the county commissioners on the 28th of September, 1875, by the

appointment of O. M. Lord, who entered immediately upon the duties of the office.

Owing to the resignation of Mr. Burt and to the sickness of Mr. Cool, the summer schools received very little supervision.

The county superintendents' report to the state department was required to be made October 10, the school year closing September 30. The new incumbent found in the office teachers' term reports for the winter term, but some teachers did not report the summer terms, and several district clerks failed to make financial reports. There was only ten days of time in which to report to the state department, and no personal knowledge could be obtained of the condition of the schools in that limited time; the consequence was, that the county superintendent's report for the year 1875 was very imperfect, but, from observations subsequently made, there was probably no material growth or change in the condition or character of the schools from that reported for the year 1874.

The superintendent held five examinations in the fall, and spent the winter in visiting the schools and in becoming acquainted with the teachers and school officers. Examinations were also held in the spring and the schools visited during the summer. In this year, 1876, under the state supervision of Mr. Burt, a very important change was made in county school work by issuing a more simple form of blanks to school officers and to teachers, and by furnishing a better form of clerks' and treasurers' books, and of school registers. A change was also made in the law in regard to reporting persons entitled to appointment of the state school fund. Only those reported by the teachers as enrolled in the public schools, of schoolable age, were now entitled to the school fund, instead of the resident population of the same ages. Through these changes and by this system the school statistics may be considered as entirely reliable.

For the purpose of showing the extent of the growth of the schools of Winona, the following statistical tables, taken from the reports of the county superintendents of schools to the state department for the years 1867 and 1882 respectively, are given.

It may be mentioned here that the table of 1867, which was prepared by the then superintendent, Mr. Luther A. West, previously mentioned, is an especially valuable one, as it is the first on record of the schoolwork of the county combined as a whole. Attention is called to a comparison of the following items of both

tables, whereby some idea can be formed regarding the growth of the schools of the county for a period of fifteen years.

#### SCHOOL STATISTICS OF WINONA FOR THE YEAR 1867.

Number of school districts 99; frame schoolhouses 71, brick 1, log 14—86; value of all schoolhouses and sites \$92.194; whole number of scholars, male 3,248, female 3,259; whole number of scholars in winter schools, male 1,475, female 1,218; average daily attendance in winter schools 1,721; length of winter schools in months 216; number of teachers in winter schools, male 42, female 41; average wages per month of each teacher in winter schools, male \$29.24, female \$19.24; whole number of pupils in summer schools, male 789, female 720; average daily attendance in summer 978; length of summer schools in months 229; number of teachers in summer schools, male 5, female 80; average wages per month of teachers in summer schools, male \$18.66, female \$16.92; whole number of different schools for the year 168; whole number of different persons in school for the year, male 1,833, female 1,661; per cent of aggregate attendance to the whole number of pupils in the county .53; whole amount of wages paid teachers for the year \$11,608; for building, purchasing, hiring, repairing or furnishing schoolhouses and purchasing lots \$6,500.12; amount paid as teachers' wages \$17,185.53; amount paid for other school purposes \$1,551.79; cash on hand in district treasuries \$718.45; number of new schoolhouses built during past year 11, value of same \$62,800; amount received from state school fund \$92,194; amount received by taxes voted by districts \$30,550.84; per cent of school money raised by tax on taxable property in county .0101.

#### 1882.

Number of school districts, common school 111, special 2—113; number of frame schoolhouses 91, brick 7, log 7, stone 2—107; value of schoolhouses and sites \$58,210, of school libraries \$59, of school apparatus \$695; whole number of schools enrolled, summer 4,089, winter 5,351; average daily attendance in winter 3,677; average length of school in months  $6\frac{1}{2}$ ; number of teachers in winter schools, male 47, female 107; average monthly wages of teachers for the year, male  $\$35\frac{1}{2}$ , female  $\$28\frac{3}{4}$ ; average daily attendance in summer 3,082; number of teachers in summer school, male 18, female 114; paid for teachers' wages and board



\$21,465.09 ; paid for building, purchasing, hiring, repairing or furnishing schoolhouses, purchasing lots, etc., \$10,545.53 ; cash on hand at end of the year \$18,021.59 ; number of new schoolhouses built, frame 2, value of same \$1,100 ; received from school fund, liquor licenses, fines and estrays \$8,068.55, from one-mill tax collected \$6,978.98, from special taxes collected \$21,937.03, from bonds sold \$850, from all other sources \$914.56.

From the report of the county superintendent for 1867 it appears that there were sixty-three certificates granted, eleven of them to males and fifty-two to females. Of these certificates, three were of the first grade, fifteen of the second and forty-five of the third.

The superintendent complains of the parsimony of boards in hiring teachers, and in supplying the schoolhouses with comfortable seats, desks and other fixtures. The average wages for the year was \$19 per month.

From the report of Mr. Lord, the present superintendent, for 1882 we learn that one hundred and forty-two certificates were granted in the previous school year ; of these, thirty-four were received by males and one hundred and eight by females.

The class of certificates issued were three only of the first grade, while there were ninety-four of the second and forty-five of the third grades. This, together with the fact that thirty-four applicants were rejected, goes to show that the standard of teachers' examinations in Winona under Mr. Lord is a high one.

From the year 1880 until the present (1883) there have been no marked changes in the condition and character of the schools, except such slight ones as might be expected in the natural growth of educational work. With the yearly development of the country, its increase in wealth and material prosperity, the expenditures for school purposes have been more liberal, tending to better schoolhouses and fixtures, and to the employment of a higher grade of teachers. At the close of this year, thirty years will have passed since the organization of the first school district in this county. As the present superintendent of schools for this county was one of the trustees of that first organized district, and for the past eight years has been engaged in active schoolwork, it affords us pleasure to give the following brief recapitulation, furnished by him, of some of the important matters connected with the schools of then and now: "Thirty years ago our only schoolhouse was a small, roughly-covered log cabin, furnished with one small window and a door

creaking upon wooden hinges and fastened with a wooden latch. This rude structure was, after a short time, superseded by a small but snug frame building, which, soon proving too small for the accommodation of the rapidly growing district, was enlarged by putting an addition to it. This enlarged frame schoolhouse in turn gave place to a substantial brick one, which Mr. Burt has described as having been built at Minnesota City. The teacher of that *first* school received \$48 for three months' work. The trustee made the rate-bill and collected the wages, and the text-books used by the scholars had been formerly used by fathers and mothers in nearly every state between the Atlantic seaboard and Minnesota.

"*Now* there are in Winona county (outside of Winona and St. Charles City) one hundred and eight schoolhouses, valued at over \$50,000, while the teachers' wages for a single year aggregate \$214,650. Besides this increase in the county schools, the school buildings and educational expenses of one independent district in the county aggregates a much larger amount than that above noted. *Then* (thirty years ago) there were about twenty children in that one school district of the county. *Now*, including those in attendance at the normal and parochial schools, they number nearly 7,000."

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## CHAPTER XXXVIII.

### HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE STATE NORMAL SCHOOL OF MINNESOTA, AT WINONA.

NEAR the close of the session of the first legislature of the state, August 2, 1858, an act was passed providing for the establishment of three state normal schools. This legislation was suggested by Dr. John D. Ford, of Winona, and secured by his untiring efforts through the legislature delegation from Winona county. Lieut. Gov. Wm. Holcombe, of Stillwater, gave the measure his earnest and cordial support, and became the first president of the state normal board of instruction. This board, consisting of Lieut.-Gov. Holcombe, Dr. A. E. Ames, Dr. E. Bray, of Carver, and Dr. J. D. Ford, of Winona, held their first meeting at the Capitol at St. Paul, August 16, 1859. After receiving and considering an application from the city of Winona, accompanied by a subscription of

\$7,000—\$2,000 in excess of the amount required by the act—the following resolution was offered by Dr. Ford, and passed unanimously :

*Resolved*, That the first state normal school be located at Winona, provided the subscription from Winona of \$7,000 be satisfactorily secured to the uses of said school, as directed by the board of directors.

And thus was located at Winona the first state normal school of Minnesota, and at that time the only state normal school west of the Mississippi.

The following named citizens of Winona were appointed as the first prudential committee: Sylvester J. Smith, Dr. J. D. Ford, Rev. D. Burt and Wm. S. Drew.

The second meeting of the board was held at Winona, November 9, 1859, at which meeting block 17, Sanborn's addition, was, after considerable deliberation, selected as a suitable site for the proposed school, the board wisely preferring a central location, in order that a model department might be maintained in connection with the normal school. On the evening of November 9, Lieut.-Gov. Holcombe, president of the board, delivered in the Baptist church an address on the subject of "Education with reference to the establishment of the first normal school of Minnesota." This address, which appears in full in the printed report of the board for 1859, was one of great merit. It is said to have made a deep impression upon the young community, and doubtless did much to elevate, if not to create, that sentiment of earnest support of educational interests which has marked the history of this city. In the closing paragraph of this admirable address the governor said: "I have in my hand a paper which contains the origin, the source and the earnest of the first normal school of Minnesota. It had its origin here in this city, and the names written on that paper are as pictures of gold, and should be handed down to future generations as evidence of their wisdom and benevolence. This paper subscribes about \$7,000 to the establishment of the normal school here, the most of which, over \$5,000, has been secured promptly to the state for that object. The duty I have discharged is every way an agreeable one; no circumstances could have occurred with respect to the interests of the state to afford me higher gratification than to meet you here on such an occasion as this. The city of Winona has distinguished herself in taking the lead in establishing for the benefit of the rising generation of this state [an institution] for all who shall yet call the state

their home. I think the normal schools should precede the common schools of the country, for then we should have trained teachers to conduct them. When this school shall be in operation it may be regarded as an auspicious era, whence to date in future the origin of many blessings, and the commencement of a perpetual course of improvement and prosperity to the people at large."

In the first annual report of the normal board to the governor, Dr. J. D. Ford set forth in a clear and forcible manner the claims of the normal school to generous support, and its vital relation to the common schools of the state. In addition to other recommendations to the legislature, he urged in behalf of the normal board that "a competent superintendent of public instruction be appointed," that "a general supervision of the subjects of schools, school teaching and school lands is absolutely necessary," and that "the school lands should be put into a condition to realize the largest possible annual fund for the support of schools." To the credit of this normal board, and its able secretary Dr. Ford, it may be said that the first state tax for school purposes was authorized and levied upon their urgent recommendation.

An appropriation of \$5,000 having been secured, it was decided to open the school on the first Monday in September, 1860. Prof. John Ogden, A.M., of Columbus, Ohio, was elected principal for one year at a salary of \$1,400, and William Stearns, a graduate of Harvard University, was chosen tutor.

The school was opened for the admission of pupils on the first Monday of September. A teachers' institute, the first ever held in this state, was convened at the commencement of the term. Teachers from various parts of the state were present, and a number of distinguished gentlemen, including Rev. E. D. Neill, chancellor of the university, ex-officio superintendent of public instruction, Ex-Lieut. Governor Holcombe, J. W. Taylor, Esq., Rev. Mr. Strong, and many others. On the evening of the first day Prof. Ogden gave his inaugural address. On the next evening superintendent Neill delivered an eloquent address on "Education," the closing paragraph of which we cannot forbear to quote: "Twelve years ago the Winnebago nation, by a treaty stipulation, abandoned their old homes in Iowa and commenced their long weary march to their new home near Sauk Rapids, in the northern part of this state. In the charming month of June, by mutual agreement, parties by land and water to the number of 2,000 arrived on this prairie. As they viewed the



vast amphitheatre of lofty bluffs, the narrow lake on one side, the great river in front, they felt that it was the spot above all others for an Indian's lodge, and purchasing the privilege of Wabasha, the chief of the Dakota band that then lived here, they drew themselves up in battle array, and signified to the United States troops that they would die before they would leave.

Twelve years hence, if the citizens who have taken the place of the rude aborigines will be large-hearted and foster the normal school, the public schools and the churches of Christ, Winona will be lovelier than the "Sweet Auburn" of the poet; and educated men and cultivated women, as they gaze on your public edifices and other evidences of refinement, will be attracted, and feel that here is the spot for a home, and, like the Indians in 1848, they will desire to tarry until they die."

The donation to the board of the use of the city building (now the Winona Library building) was another evidence of the friendliness of the citizens to this struggling institution. The use of this building was continued for eight years without charge to the state.

The \$7,000 subscribed by the citizens of Winona was not used for running expenses, but was reserved for the construction of the permanent building in 1867-8, at which time the subscription with its appreciated values amounted to \$10,000.

The first year was one of great promise throughout. Commencement exercises were held at the Baptist church on the last week in June, 1861, continuing the entire week. Mr. Allen, of Wisconsin, a distinguished educator, Mr. Hickock, ex-superintendent of schools in Pennsylvania, Hon. Ignatius Donnelly, and Gen. C. C. Andrews made addresses. A part of the literary exercises consisted of a colloquy between Miss Charlotte Denman, Miss Thorne and others, in which was set forth, in an amusing and graphic manner, the current opinions concerning the establishment of normal schools, an exercise which will never be forgotten by those who were present.

At the session of the legislature in 1861 a special act was passed creating the first board of education of Winona. This board was to consist of one school director elected from each of the three wards, the principal and such members of the normal school — at Winona as shall be residents of said city and qualified. The word "board" was left out of the law between the words "school" and "at," which made a very unwieldy board, or an intangible body.

The idea was to copy somewhat after the Oswego plan of uniting the jurisdiction of the normal and public schools of Winona, using the public schools as graded and model schools. At the municipal election held in April, 1861, Messrs. Thomas Simpson, Richard Jackson and John Keyes were elected members of the board of education, from the first, second and third wards respectively ; and these, with Prof. Ogden as principal of State Normal School, constituted the first board of education. Mr. Simpson was elected president, Mr. Keyes, recorder and John Ogden first superintendent of schools in city of Winona.

In the following year this law was repealed and the joint jurisdiction ceased.

The normal school opened in the fall of 1861, with an increase of students. Prof. J. G. McMyynn had been engaged as assistant teacher. He remained, however, but a short time, resigning early in October, to take a position as major in a Wisconsin regiment. It may be noted that many of the students of the normal, during Prof. Ogden's principalship, entered the volunteer army in defense of the Union.

Prof. Ogden resigned the principalship of the school December 14, 1861, at the close of the first term of that year.

The following extract from his letter of resignation clearly reflects the spirit of those stirring times :

WINONA, Minnesota, December 14, 1861.

*To the Prudential Committee of the State Normal School.*

GENTLEMEN,—I hereby tender you my resignation of the principalship of the institution intrusted to my care, thanking you most sincerely for the generous support and counsel you have given me.

In taking this step, it is proper that you and the public should understand the reason that impels me to it.

1. My distracted and dishonored country calls louder for my poor service just now than the school does. I have, ever since our national flag was dishonored, cherished the desire and indulged in the determination that—whenever I could do so without violation of a sense of duty—I would lay aside the habiliments of the schoolroom and assume those of the camp, and now I am resolved to heed that call and rush to the breach, and with my life, if necessary, stay, if possible, the impious hands that are now clutching at the very existence of our free institutions. What are our schools worth? What is our country worth without these? Our sons and our daughters must be slaves. Our beloved land must be a hissing and a byword among the nations of the earth. Shall this fair and goodly land, this glorious Northwest become a stench in the nostrils of the Almighty, who made it so fair and so free? No,

not while there is one living soul to thrust a sword at treason. I confess my blood boils when I think of the deep disgrace of our country.

My brethren and fellow-teachers are in the field. Some of them—the bravest and the best—have already fallen. Their blood will do more to cleanse this nation than their teaching would. So will mine. I feel ashamed to tarry longer. You may not urge me to stay.

\* \* \* \* \*

With these feelings, I am with very great respect,

Your most obedient servant,

JOHN OGDEN.

Prof. V. J. Walker, principal of the Winona high school, was placed in charge of the school temporarily, during the second term, which closed March 2, 1862, and remained suspended until November 1, 1864. The reasons for this suspension of over two years may be inferred from Prof. Ogden's letter of resignation, and may be stated as follows: (1) The interest in the great struggle then pending for national life overshadowed and overwhelmed everything else, and, as a natural corollary of this, (2) competent teachers could not be found to take charge of the school. Such men were generally in the war. (3) The means for the support of the school was inadequate. The state had made no appropriations beyond the first \$5,000. The state was too busy in the war to care for its educational interests.

During the session of the legislature in the spring of 1864; at the earnest solicitation of the citizens of Winona, led by Dr. J. D. Ford, an act was passed renewing the appropriations to the school and re-establishing it on a permanent basis. This act provided that the sum of \$3,000 be appropriated for the current year, \$4,000 for the following year, and \$5,000 annually thereafter. At the annual meeting of the normal board in the following May Prof. John G. McMyynn was elected principal. No movement was, however, made to reopen the school until the next meeting in the following September, when the resignation of Prof. McMyynn was accepted, and Prof. W. F. Phelps, former principal of the State Normal School of New Jersey was unanimously elected. The principal-elect, being present, accepted the position in person and immediately entered upon the duties of his office. Professor Phelps' rare ability as an organizer and disciplinarian was at once apparent in the prompt and efficient measures taken to re-establish the school on a permanent basis. To the wisdom of these measures and the executive ability of their author is largely due the high standing which the normal

school at Winona has subsequently attained, and still holds, among the educational institutions of this country.

The location of the site on block 17, Sanborn's addition, was not favored by the citizens generally. At the meeting of the board held in June, 1866, the following communication was received:

*To the State Normal School Board:*

The city council of the city of Winona makes the following proposition to your honorable board: That if the board will erect the normal school building upon the present site, viz: block 4, Sanborn's addition, the city will purchase and donate to the state the east half of block 3, Sanborn's addition, and vacate and donate to the state that part of Johnson street lying between blocks 3 and 4; or, in case it can be procured, the city will purchase and donate to the state the whole of said block. This provided that the board will convey to the city block 17 in Sanborn's addition.

R. D. CONE, Mayor.

This proposition was promptly accepted by the board. Subsequently the city bought the whole of block 3, Sanborn's addition, and gave it outright to the state, waiving the condition stated in the communication of the mayor.

During the session of the legislature of 1866 the first appropriation of \$10,000 for the building was obtained mainly through the efforts of Hon. E. S. Youmans, then a member of the house, and Hon. Thos. Simpson in the state senate.

This appropriation was designed to secure plans and to supplement the contributions of the citizens and city of Winona, and was entirely used in constructing a foundation,—an important measure which committed the state fully to the erection of a building at Winona.

The plans for the building were drawn by the architect, G. P. Randall, Esq., of Chicago, and were adopted by the board at its meeting in June, 1866.

On the 19th of October, 1866, the corner-stone was laid with interesting ceremonies by Gov. Marshall, in the presence of a large and deeply interested assembly, citizens of Winona and surrounding country. Hon. Thos. Wilson, chief-justice of the supreme court of the state, delivered the address on this memorable occasion.

The foundation was erected under the direction of the credential committee, consisting of Dr. Ford, Hon. E. S. Youmans and W. S. Drew, Esq. Mr. Drew was appointed superintendent of the work, and gave it his personal and efficient supervision throughout the session of 1867, until the basement walls were completed and made ready for the superstructure.



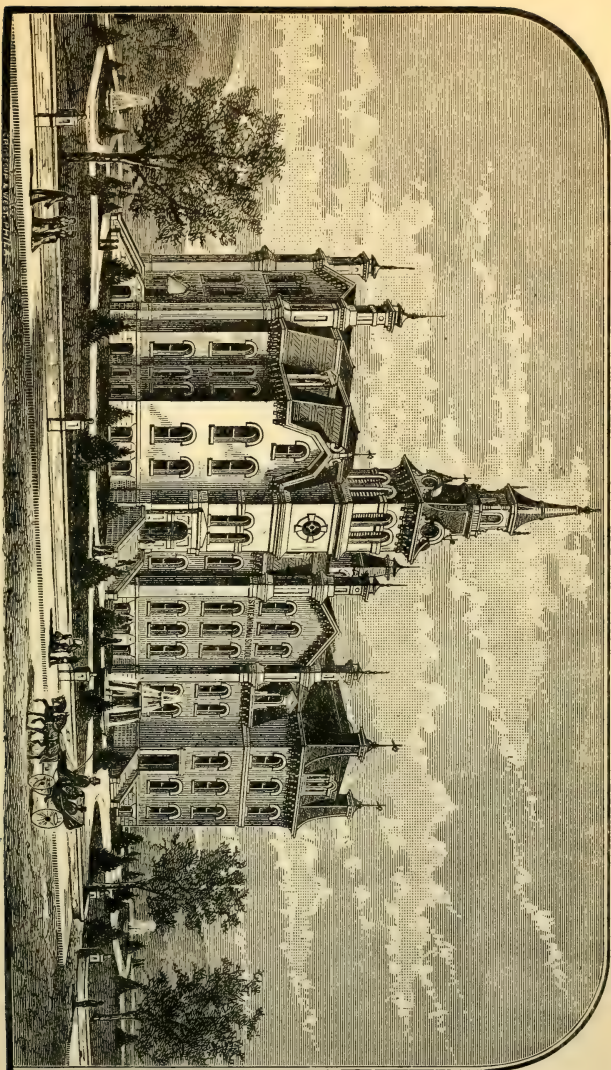
In the spring of 1867 an appropriation by the legislature of \$50,000 for building purposes was secured, largely through the influence of Hon. Wm. H. Yale, then in the state senate. Only one half of this amount was appropriated for the first year. The citizens of Winona cashed the orders of the board for the other half, making the entire sum available for immediate use.

The contract for the erection of the superstructure was made with C. Bohn, Esq., of Winona, who had already demonstrated his qualifications as a builder in the construction of the high-school building of the city. In 1869 the sum of \$34,000 additional was appropriated "*to complete the building,*" and in 1870 nearly \$9,000 more was generously granted by the legislature to *liquidate the balance due the contractor.*

The building was occupied by the school September 1, 1869, and completed in the following December.

The following description of the building is taken from the report of the normal board for 1859 :

The general form of the building is in the form of a cross. The main edifice is 63×78 feet; the wings are each 50×75 feet. The basement story is 10 feet high; the first story is 13 feet; the second, 16 feet; the third, 19 feet, and the fourth story of the west wing is 28 feet to the crown of the ceiling at the base of the skylights. The southeast corner of the west wing terminates in a ventilating shaft 8×8 feet and 105 feet high; and the northwest corner of the east wing terminates in the main tower, 15×15 feet at base and 130 feet high. The building is of red bricks, with facings and trimmings of a drab-colored calciferous limestone. Its beauty is due not to superfluous ornamentation, but to the harmony of its proportions and its massiveness. Through the basement there is a corridor 10 feet wide running through the center from end to end. The first story has a main corridor 10×166 feet, running entirely through the building. This is intersected by cross-corridors extending from the front to the rear entrances. On the north side of the main corridor there are four large schoolrooms for the use of the model classes. On the right of the entrance of the main tower there is a reception-room 20×25 feet. On the opposite or south side of the main corridor the rooms above described are duplicated. Opposite the reception-room is a gentlemen's cloakroom. In the main building, in the second story, is the normal school "assembly-room"; its dimensions are 63×78 feet. In the east wing, beginning with the



MINNESOTA STATE NORMAL SCHOOL.

main tower, we find the principal's office, the library and two large recitation-rooms. In the west wing are two large recitation-rooms, one in each corner, and two large wardrobe-rooms for ladies, each 12×35 feet, communicating with corridor and assembly-room. In the third story of main building we have "Normal Hall," capable of seating 800 to 1,000 persons. In the west wing, and connecting with corridor and Normal Hall, are four recitation-rooms. The east wing is occupied by a suite of rooms connected by open arches, designed to be used for a museum. In fourth story of the west wing there are two rooms, 32×35 feet each, separated by a corridor, and with ceiling extending to the crown of the roof, 23 feet in height. These rooms are lighted by skylights, and are intended for a gallery of art. The steps at each of the five entrances of the building are of massive, solid masonry, and are of easy ascent. The corridors at each extremity are entered by spacious vestibules. The stairs leading to the several stories are easy of ascent, the risers being seven inches each, and the treads, which are very wide, being made of solid two-inch oak plank, finished in oil. The heating and ventilation of the building are upon the plan known as the Ruttan system. There are seven furnaces properly located in the basement. Underneath the furnaces the cold air from without is introduced through ducts having an area of section equal to from eight to ten square feet each.

Space cannot be given to a further description of this beautiful structure, which is acknowledged to be, even at the date of this writing, in 1883, the most perfect building of the kind in the Northwest. The plans of this building were subsequently adopted, with little change, for the State Normal Schools at Buffalo, New York, and at Carbondale, Illinois.

It should be stated that the admirable adaptation of this building to the existing and prospective wants of the school, and its nearly faultless construction, are largely due to the experienced judgment, wise forethought and energetic management of the principal, Prof. Wm. F. Phelps, who was permitted to enjoy the fruits of his zealous labors, and to carry forward in this building his plans for the organization of a normal school of national reputation, until he voluntarily resigned this position in 1876.

The following is a summary of the contributions made by the citizens of Winona to the school and building :

Original subscription of \$7,000 to secure site, with appreciation in values	\$10,000
Subscription for purchase of block 4, Sanborn's addition.....	5,000
Donation by city of block 3, Sanborn's addition.....	6,000
The vacation of street and alleys.....	2,500
Cash in bonds of city.....	15,000
Use of city building for eight years, and furnishing expenses.....	4,500
Total contribution.....	43,000

In addition to the above the citizens of Winona have paid into the treasury of the school for the tuition of pupils in the model department the average sum of \$1,500 annually for twenty years, amounting to about \$3,000. The present valuation of the site of the building is \$25,000.

The state appropriations for building purposes at various times amount to the gross sum of \$115,837.

In accordance with a plan proposed by Principal Phelps, the legislature, in 1871, passed an act establishing in Winona the State Soldiers' Orphans' Home, and providing for the education of the children in the normal school. This plan proved to be a wise and economical one for the state, and of the greatest value to the children. Nearly one hundred of the soldiers' orphans received training for several years in the model and normal departments. A number completed the entire course, and are now filling important positions in the schools of the state. The growth of the school in numbers, in reputation, and in all the characteristics of an excellent training school for teachers, continued without marked interruption until the legislature in 1876, partly by design and partly by neglect, failed to make the usual annual appropriation for the support of the three normal schools of the state.

The normal board was called in extra session. During that meeting several propositions to close the schools at once were voted down by a bare majority. The opposition to these propositions was led by Hon. Thos. Simpson, the resident director at Winona.

Finally the board took action, which was intended merely to give the normal schools a chance for continuance if they could find any means of existing without involving the board or incurring a debt. It was really a life and death struggle with the normal schools of our state. Had they been closed then, they would have remained closed, perhaps for ever.

The action of the board availed little ; it said, " Live if you can, but don't involve us." Liberal-hearted citizens of this city offered



to advance money to carry on the school at Winona, but this could not be accepted under the action of the board. Gen. Sibley, the president of the board, and Prof. Wm. F. Phelps, the principal at Winona, resigned.

The resident director determined that the school should not go down. He made a temporary reduction of the teaching force, some abatements of salaries, and some extra charges for tuition. He appealed to the soldiers' orphans' board, who generously responded by paying tuition for the pupils under their care. By these means, supplemented by a cash contribution from his own pocket, the school was kept in vigorous operation until the following year, when the appropriation was not only restored, but was made permanent. The action at Winona had much to do with inspiring a like spirit and determination on the part of the local management of the schools at Mankato and St. Cloud.

Prof. Charles A. Morey, a member of the faculty and a former graduate of the school, was elected principal.

The following year saw the school restored to its former condition of efficiency. In 1878 Principal Morey inaugurated an important change in the organization of the school by extending the elementary course, and establishing an advanced four years' course of study designed to prepare teachers for the principalship of high and graded schools.

In May, 1879, Principal Morey resigned his position to enter upon the practice of law. On the 27th of June Prof. Irwin Shepard, superintendent of the city schools of Winona, was elected principal; since which time the growth of the school in numbers, in efficiency, and in the confidence of the citizens of the state, has, we believe, continued without interruption.

The following shows the increase of attendance during the past four years: 1878-1879, 302; 1879-1880, 342; 1880-1881, 388; 1881-1882, 439; 1882-1883, 485.

Hon. Thos. Simpson, the present resident director, has been a member of the state normal board continuously since 1868, and has served as president of the state board and resident director at Winona during most of that time.

The first state teachers' institute, in 1859, the first state convention of county superintendents, in 1866, and the first institute of normal instructors, in 1872, were all held at the Winona normal school.

The first class which finished the course of this school numbered sixteen members and were graduated June 28, 1866. Since that date to June 1, 1883, twenty-five classes numbering 480 members have graduated, while nearly 3,000 other students have received instruction for one or more terms. These students, as well as the graduates, have fulfilled their pledges to the state with singular fidelity and success. Many of the graduates have been called to important and lucrative positions in other states from California to Maine. Several have received appointments to leading positions in the normal schools of the Argentine Republic, S. A., at salaries ranging from \$1,200 to \$2,500.

Prominent among the causes which have contributed to place the State Normal School at Winona in the foremost rank of similar institutions in America should be mentioned the liberal enterprise and singular devotion to its interests on the part of the citizens of Winona, as shown by their munificent donations of lands and money, by their loyal and unwavering championship in the trying times of legislative inaction and indifference; by their establishment of an extensive museum and gallery of art for the free use of the students; by their continued patronage and support of the model school, and by their just and generous pride in the past history, the present prosperity and the future promise of this educational institution of the state.

#### THE SOCIETY OF ARTS, SCIENCES AND LETTERS.

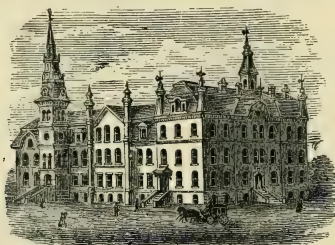
On May 24, 1871, a preliminary meeting was held in Normal Hall for the purpose of organizing a society for the promotion of a knowledge of art, science and literature.

At an adjourned meeting held June 12, articles of association were adopted. The corporate members were Wm. F. Phelps, Thos. Simpson, Abner Lewis, Mary V. Lee, C. C. Curtiss, O. B. Gould, Sarah L. Wheeler and C. H. Berry. The plans of the society provided for "the fitting of rooms in the First State Normal building for a museum of natural history and physical science, and for a department of drawing and the arts of design; the collection, classification and arrangement of specimens in natural history and archæology, and of models in physics and the fine arts; the collection of facts and objects pertaining to local or general history; the establishment and support, on the grounds of the normal school, of a botanical garden; the arrangement and ornamentation of the

grounds; the gathering of a library of standard works in all departments of science, literature and art; the collection and preservation of all collections, and, by lectures and other appropriate means, the elevation of the public taste."

Previous to the organization of this society, citizens of Winona had placed in the normal school building, for the use of the students, private collections of minerals and other specimens. Principal Phelps had contributed a valuable collection, and the Hon. Thos. Simpson had donated his entire cabinet of mineral specimens, which he had been gathering for many years in Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota. The proprietorship of these collections was vested in the new society. The collections were increased from time to time by additional contributions.

In 1875 the citizens of Winona, at the advice and solicitation of Professor Wm. F. Phelps, contributed about \$3,500 for the purchase



of the Woodman collection of corals, shells, minerals and fossils. This valuable collection, and those previously belonging to the society, were arranged in suitable cases in the geological hall of the normal building in 1878, under the superintendence of Principal Chas. A. Morey. The following contract was subsequently made with the state normal board:

1. The society agrees that its collections, apparatus, pictures, etc., shall remain in the rooms now occupied by them so long as the building shall be used for the purpose of a state normal school.

2. That said collections, etc., shall be forever free to the use of the normal school in said building, its teachers and pupils, and that said collections shall not be removed, either in whole or in part, for any purpose whatever.

3. That, to prevent interference with the operations of the school, the times of opening said rooms to the public shall be as the principal and resident director of the school shall from time to time direct, and not otherwise.

4. That the society shall bear all expense of classifying, arranging and

putting in position all specimens and objects, and of preserving the order and condition of the same: *Provided*, That the state normal board agrees: 1. To furnish to the society, rent free, the room now occupied by its collections; to heat, light and keep the same in repair as long as the building shall be used for the purposes of a normal school. 2. To give to the society the use of such cases, platforms and fixtures as are already placed in said rooms, and to build others as the acquisitions of the society may demand. 3. To furnish janitor's services for said rooms, as their use may demand.

This museum has become one of the most extensive and complete in the west. Three large rooms, connected by arches, are lined with cases which are filled with specimens of minerals, fossils, birds and animals. A large case in the center of the room contains the skeleton of a mastodon. Two spacious rooms in the fourth story of the building are devoted to the exhibition of art subjects. A curator devotes a large portion of his time to the care of the museum and to the collection, classification and arrangement of specimens in all departments of natural history.

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## CHAPTER XXXIV.

### BIRDS OF WINONA COUNTY.

THE following are the birds known to exist in this county: duck hawk, pigeon hawk (common), sparrow hawk, sharp-shinned hawk, Cooper's hawk, marsh hawk, harrier or mouse hawk, red-tailed hawk (common), red-shouldered hawk (scarce), broad-winged hawk, bald eagle, great-horned owl, long-eared owl, screech owl, barred owl (summer), short-eared owl, snowy owl, saw-whet owl, hawk owl, day owl, black-billed cuckoo, yellow-billed cuckoo, hairy woodpecker, downy woodpecker, black-backed three-toed woodpecker, yellow-bellied woodpecker, leucated woodpecker, log cock, red-headed woodpecker, pigeon woodpecker, ruby-throated hummingbird, chimney swallow, night hawk, bull-bat, whippoorwill, belted kingfisher, kingbird, wood-pewee, olive-sided flycatcher, pewee, Phebe-bird, wood thrush, robin, brown thrasher, catbird, red-breasted bluebird, titmouse, chickadee, white-bellied nut-hatch, American creeper, long-billed marsh wren, short-billed marsh wren, house wren, skylark, shorelark, black and white creeper, Maryland yellow-throat, black-poll warbler, scarlet tanager, barn swallow, blue-backed swallow, cave swallow, bank swallow, purple martin,



wax-wing, Bohemian chatterer, cedar-bird, cherry-bird, great northern shrike, red-eyed vireo, purple-finch, red-poll linnet, snow bunting, snowbird, swamp sparrow, song sparrow, tree sparrow, field sparrow, chipping sparrow, fox sparrow (frequent), rose-breasted grosbeak, ring-rail (occasional), bobolink, ricebird, cowbird, red-winged blackbird, yellow-headed bird, meadow lark, orchard oriole (not common), Baltimore oriole (common), crow blackbird, crow (on the increase), bluejay, wild pigeon (never abundant), common dove, pinnated grouse (scarce), ruffed grouse, quail (nearly exterminated), woodcock, Wilson snipe, jack snipe, bittern, stakedriver, least bittern (on river bottoms), marsh hen, Virginia rail, coot (in marshes). Besides these, there are met occasionally the sandpiper, the great blue heron, the green heron, the wild goose and brant, the blue-winged teal, the hooded merganser, the widgeon, the pintail, the mallard, the butterball duck, the wood duck, and other ducks. The wood duck breeds here.

#### THE WINONA COUNTY PRESS.

The pioneers of Winona evinced a thorough appreciation of the power of the press as an important element in promoting the welfare of the young city, and in the development of the promising territory of Minnesota. The first newspaper established was the "Winona Argus," September 7, 1854. It was published by Wm. Ashley Jones & Co., weekly, democratic in politics. Wm. Ashley Jones, Captain Sam Whiting, M. Wheeler Sargent and Robert T. Hunter were among the contributors. Samuel Melvin, at the present time a merchant in Winona, was foreman in the Argus office. He purchased an interest in the paper in January, 1855, and continued about a year and a half, when he sold back to Wm. Ashley Jones, and the paper continued about a year and a half longer, during which Mr. Cozzens was for a time editor. After vicissitudes incident to a western town twenty years ago, it was compelled to suspend its publication in the month of September, 1857, not however, until it had accomplished a good work for southern Minnesota.

The "Winona Weekly Express" was the next venture in journalism. It was established about August 1, 1855, Wilson C. Huff, son of H. D. Huff, being the editor. The Express continued until after the election in November, when the office and material were purchased by a company formed to establish "The Winona Republican."

In the fall of 1855, some earnest republicans formed a joint-stock company, purchased the material of the "Winona Express," and on the 21st of November, 1855, issued the first number of the "Winona Weekly Republican." The names of these stockholders were Charles Eaton, E. L. King, C. F. Buck, A. P. Foster, H. C. Jones, A. C. Jones, E. H. Murray, J. B. Stockton, J. S. Denman, H. T. Wickersham, Rufus Crosby, O. S. Holbrook, St. A. D. Balcombe, John L. Balcombe, Matthew Ewing, W. G. Dye, J. H. Jacoby, L. H. Springer. The newspaper was a seven-column sheet and conducted with ability. The editor was Captain Sam Whiting. The business manager was Walter G. Dye, who continued to occupy that position, with slight intervals, for about twenty-five years. Messrs. Foster and Dye purchased the stock of the other shareholders and became sole proprietors. On the 19th of June, 1856, D. Sinclair purchased the interest of A. P. Foster in the establishment, and it thus became the sole property of Messrs. Sinclair & Dye. In the fall of 1856 Mr. Dye disposed of his interest in the concern to Messrs. Balcombe, Murray, Buck and King, who in a short time sold out to W. C. Dodge. The latter continued his connection with the paper only a few months, retiring on the 3rd of February, 1857, and being succeeded by Mr. Dye, who repurchased one half of the establishment. At this time the firm name was changed to D. Sinclair & Co., and has so remained ever since.

On the 2d of April, 1864, Sheldon C. Carey purchased one half interest in "The Republican" from Mr. Dye, who retired. Mr. Carey continued a member of the firm until his death on the night of December 28 of the same year he entered it, when he was drowned in the Mississippi river, Wisconsin, while out with a small party on a sleighing excursion. His death caused the most poignant grief in the community.

On the first of July, 1865, Mr. Dye resumed connection with "The Republican" as joint partner with Mr. Sinclair, and November 25, 1866, Mr. John Dobbs, an experienced practical bookbinder, became one of the firm, purchasing one third interest in "The Republican" establishment. In 1859 the proprietors of "The Republican" determined to try the experiment of a daily paper in Winona, and on the 19th of November issued the first number of the "Daily Review," a three-column paper somewhat larger than a sheet of foolscap. The publication of this little paper demonstrated the readiness of the people of Winona to support — not a first-class journal, but

one of respectable size, considering the times. Accordingly the "Daily Review" was stopped, and on the 19th of December, 1859, the "Winona Daily Republican" was started on its career. It was a five-column sheet, but was enlarged to a six-column sheet on the 8th of April, 1861, and on the 1st of July, 1865, it was enlarged to a seven-column sheet, its present form. The "Weekly Republican" has the honor of being the oldest republican newspaper in the state.

In 1867 the "well arranged three-story brick "Republican" building with basement was built. It was occupied in February, 1868. On the first of January, 1881, Mr. Dye retired, selling his interest to Mr. Sinclair. Mr. P. G. Hubbell, who had been connected with the office since 1864, was appointed business manager, and so continued until the first of January, 1883, when Mr. W. E. Smith bought a third interest in the establishment, and Mr. Hubbell assumed the duties of managing editor of "The Republican." Through a long established career "The Republican," under the superior editorial management of Mr. Sinclair, has wielded a potent influence on the affairs of the county and state, while for the city of its choice it has ever been the zealous advocate and faithful friend. It is entitled to great credit as one of the important agencies in the development of Winona.

Returning to the history of other newspapers in the early years of the county, "The Times" was started by a man who came from Fountain City, Wisconsin. The proprietor purchased the material of the "Argus," but continued only a few months.

"The Democrat" was started on September 9, 1858, by C. W. Cottom, who came here from Rochester. He published an eight-column paper. In the course of a year or two he sold out to the Democrat Printing Company.

On the 11th of December, 1860, the "Tri-Weekly Democrat" was started by the Democrat Printing Company, with J. L. Thompson, printer; C. W. Cottom, editor; Wm. T. Hubbell, city editor. This was a five-column sheet. In the following summer the paper was closed out and was succeeded by "The State."

"The Winona Daily State" was established by Massey & Wheeler, July 11, 1861. It was a six-column paper. The daily was a morning paper, but it existed only a few weeks. Mr. Wheeler retired and Mr. Massey continued the publication of the "Weekly State," which was first issued July 17, 1861. After an existence of a year or two the "State" suspended.

"The Winona Weekly Democrat" was established by A. G. Reed September 17, 1864. It was a seven-column paper and lived some two or three years.

The "Democratic Press," which was issued by Messrs. Meservey & Pomeroy, was another venture, which appeared in the fall of 1865, but continued only about six months.

"The Winona Daily Democrat" was established January 8, 1868, by Green & Gile. It was a four-page, seven-column journal. It was afterward owned by Green & Dresbach, and then by the Democrat Printing Company. It suspended after a few months.

On the 7th of May, 1869, "The Winona Herald," a democratic weekly newspaper, was established by Mr. W. J. Whipple. It is still in existence under the proprietorship of Mr. Whipple, though leased to Mr. T. A. Dailey in the summer of 1882.

On February 13, 1869, an amateur paper entitled "The North Star" was started by some young men, with Geo. T. Griffith, editor; Wm. F. Worthington, publisher; H. G. Smith, treasurer; John N. Nind, subscription agent. The little journal subsequently passed into the hands of Fred. W. Flint and John N. Nind, by whom it was published for several months.

In 1872 another amateur paper, "The Novelty Press," was started at Homer by R. F. Norton. It was afterward removed to Winona and conducted by Eber Norton. In 1879, November 28, it was bought by Geo. B. Dresbach and the name changed to "The Democrat." In January, 1880, it was sold to Hiler, Busdicker and Dresbach, and was purchased in January, 1882, by Fred. W. Flint.

On the 9th of October, 1873, E. Gerstenhauer established a German weekly called "The Winona Adler," which still continues under the same proprietor.

On the 4th of July, 1873, the "St. Charles Times" was established by H. W. Hill. It was democratic in politics and continued until January 1, 1883, when it suspended.

On May 24, 1875, "The Sunday Morning Dispatch" was issued by D. B. Sherwood. Only one number appeared, the proprietor returning to Michigan.

On the 24th of April, 1876, "The Monday Morning Bulletin" was started by John Seigler. It continued for a few months and was removed to Wabasha, Minnesota.

In 1877, August 11, "The Saturday Evening Postman" appeared



under the editorship and management of W. A. Chapman. It existed for only a short time.

On January 3, 1877, the "St. Charles Union" was established by Joseph S. Whiton. It is independent republican in politics, and a paper of general circulation in the western part of the county.



January 21, 1881, a German weekly newspaper, "The Westlicher Herald," was started by Leicht & Schmid. The firm changed to Leicht & Hunger July 1, 1881, and again to Joseph Leicht January 1, 1883, who is the present proprietor.

During 1881 the "Utica Transcript," a short-lived paper, was started at Utica by O. S. Reed.

On the 2d of July, 1881, "The Winona Daily Tribune" was established by F. W. Flint as an evening independent republican paper. About the first of July, 1882, it was sold to Morrissey & Bunn and changed to a democratic paper in politics, still retaining the name of "The Tribune." In January following the paper was sold to a stock company and changed to a morning paper. It continued until April, 1882, when it suspended.

The year 1883, therefore, finds the following newspapers in existence in this county: "The Winona Republican," daily and weekly, republican in politics, established in 1855; "The Winona Herald," weekly, democratic, established in 1869; "The Winona Adler," German weekly, democratic, established in 1873; "The St. Charles Union," weekly, independent republican, established in 1877; "The Westlicher Herald," German, weekly, democratic, established in 1881.

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## CHAPTER XL.

### WINONA PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

As introductory to the history of the public schools of the city of Winona, as they have existed since the organization of the "board of education of the city of Winona," April 19, 1861, some mention is necessary to be made of the early educational work of the territory now included within the city limits. The first attempt at school teaching that was ever made in this region was in the summer of 1852, by Miss Angelia Gere, a young girl of fourteen or fifteen years of age, who collected a few small children in the shanty of Mrs. Goddard (known through all this region for the past twenty-five years as Aunt Catharine Smith). As nearly as the memory of old residents can fix such matters, this school was only continued for a few weeks, the instruction was of the most primitive kind, and the number of little ones eight or ten. The following summer, 1853, Mrs. E. B. Hamilton opened a school in her own little house at the lower end of the prairie. This school had been in session about two or three weeks when it was abruptly closed by the death of the teacher, who was killed by a stroke of lightning, June 19.

In the fall of 1853 a private school was opened by Miss Willis, long since married and settled in Chatfield, and this was the first school, that really deserved the name, opened on the prairie. Miss Willis was followed in 1854 by Miss Hettie Houck, now Mrs. W. H. Stevens, of this city, who taught a subscription school in a building belonging to Aunt Catharine Smith, on the corner of Front and Franklin streets. The number of pupils in this school was about twenty-five; the teacher was engaged at a regular salary; no tuition fee was demanded; the funds were provided by voluntary subscription, and the school is really entitled to the name of the first public school of Winona.

During the winter of 1854-5 a school was opened by Mr. Henry Bolcom, in a small building on Second street, afterward known as Wagner's saloon. This school was supported largely in the same manner as that of Miss Houck's, the school-tax for the district never having been collected. The pupils in attendance during the winter term numbered about thirty.

In the summer of 1855 Miss Almeida Trutchell, subsequently Mrs. David Smith, taught school in the embryo city. The following winter, 1855-6, Geo. C. Buckman, now of Waseca, Minnesota, wielded the birch. Mr. H. C. Bolcom, who had been attending term at Oberlin College, Ohio, having returned to Winona, was employed as teacher during the winter of 1856-7, and his work in that line closed with the closing of the spring term. The original school district No. 2 had been divided in the spring of 1854, prior to which time there was but one school district on the prairie. No. 14, the new district, comprised that part of the town plat west of Lafayette street; but for particulars concerning these matters, see history of Winona county schools. In the fall of 1857 a union, by mutual agreement of the two districts, was effected, and the trustees of the separate districts became informally the board of the *quasi* united one. These trustees were for No. 2, Col. H. C. Johnson, Andrew Smith and H. C. Bolcom; for No. 14, Dr. J. D. Ford, Dr. A. S. Ferris and John Iams. Rev. Geo. C. Tanner was employed as principal for the union or grammar school, as it was called; commenced his work November 17, 1857, and before the close of the winter four schools were in operation. The teachers of these schools were: Rev. Tanner, his wife, Miss Wealthy Tucker, who taught the primary, in what is now ward 1 of the city, and John Sherman, who taught in the lower part of the city. Of the early

Winona schools, from 1856 to 1860, at which time his services were transferred to the normal schools, Dr. Ford was the mainstay, and pages might be written concerning the straits into which the *board* were often driven to maintain the schools. As an instance, we may note the concert held in the L. D. Smith building, with Dr. Ford and his daughter and W. S. Drew as principal fuglemen. The proceeds were applied to the purchase of a terrestrial globe, the first article of school apparatus purchased for the Winona public schools. This globe, which should have been preserved as a relic, was burned in the fire of July 5, 1862. Rev. Tanner was succeeded in the fall of 1858 by Mrs. A. W. Thomas, who was his assistant during the latter part of his schoolwork here.

There was a constant increase in the work of the schools from this time forward. In the fall of 1859 Mr. V. J. Walker was employed as principal, and his work continued long after the city schools were established upon a solid foundation. In this work his wife, a most excellent teacher, was associated with him, and their influence in the young life of the city and its schools cannot be told in words. For the eighteen months elapsing from the time of Mr. Walker's assuming charge of the schools until they were turned over to the city board of education at its organization, no record survives. The final report of the districts to that board are lost, and all we know is by the memories reviving twenty-four years of eventful history, in which so much relating to those early times has passed into forgetfulness that it is impossible to reproduce it even approximately. We only know that the schools had no permanent abiding-places, that accommodations were difficult to be found and good quarters impossible to be received, money scarce and times hard, yet out of all the schools emerged tried as by fire, to approve the wisdom of their early management.

#### BOARD OF EDUCATION.

By special act of Minnesota state legislature, approved March 7, 1861, under the title "An act for the establishment and better regulation of the common schools of the city of Winona," all the school districts and parts of school districts within the corporate limits of the city of Winona were consolidated to form one district, the regulation and management of which was committed to a "board of education," for the creation and government of which the special act above cited made provision. By the terms of this act it was



ordered that at the time of holding the regular charter election in the city, one school director in each ward should be elected; who, in order to qualify, should take a prescribed oath of office, and that the directors thus chosen, together with the principal of the State Normal School at Winona, should form the city board of education. It was plainly the intention of the act, as indicated by its wording, to make all resident members of the normal school board *ex officio* members of the city board of education, but this intention was defeated by the omission of a material word in the engrossing of the act. Thus the school board of the city at its organization was constituted with but four members, one each from the three wards of the city, and the principal of the State Normal School at Winona. The special provisions of this act of March 7, 1861, it is not necessary to make further allusion to, as it was superseded by the act of legislature approved March 8, 1862, which latter act it was declared should be construed as of a public nature and subversive of the act of the previous year. By the terms of the new act the election of two school directors from each ward was provided for, the terms of office of such directors fixed at two years, and the directors thus chosen to constitute the "city board of education," thus effectually severing all connection with the normal school authorities in the management of the public schools of the city. By the act of March, 1862, provision was also made for the election of a superintendent for the city schools; members of the board of education were debarred from receiving compensation for their services as such; annual reports were required to be made to the county auditor and to the state superintendent of schools, and the board of education was invested with such powers as were deemed necessary to their existence, government and effective work as a corporate body entrusted with the onerous duty of providing the best possible educational facilities for the children and youth of a growing city. To preserve the homogeneousness of the educational work throughout the state, the board of education was made amenable (as far as practically applicable) to the general school law of the state, and to the rules established by the state superintendent of public instruction. There was one provision of this act destined in the course of events to become a fruitful source of contention between the common council of the city and the city board of education, and for this reason, if no other, it must be specially noted. This was the clause by which the city council was empowered to pass upon the annual

estimates for school expenses presented by the board of education, and to accept or reject the same in whole or in part as they deemed best. The city treasurer was made the custodian of all school funds paid in under the tax levies ordered by the council or otherwise derived, and required under penalty to keep the same separate and distinct from all other funds in his hands. The act also provided for equitable payment of all judgment liens against the board without issuing execution against the school property of the city.

At the time the act of the legislature creating the "board of education of the city of Winona" became operative, March 7, 1861, the city was divided into three wards, and at the charter election in April of that year the several wards elected members of the board of education as follows: First ward, Thomas Simpson; second ward, Richard Jackson; third ward, John Keyes; and these gentlemen, with Prof. John Ogden, principal of the State Normal School at Winona, were the original board of education for the city of Winona. The "board" met April 13, 1861, for organization and elected Thomas Simpson president and John Keyes clerk; Prof. John Ogden was made superintendent of city schools, and the "board of education of the city of Winona" became a fixed institution.

Concerning these gentlemen, who twenty-two years ago composed the first board of education of this city, it may not be amiss to state that Prof. Ogden left the city in December, 1861, and is now in charge of a private normal school at Fayette, Ohio. Thomas Simpson is still a resident of the city, in active professional life, and president of the State Normal School board. Richard Jackson was several years in business in this city and died here early in 1875. John Keyes, justly entitled to the honor so generally accorded him as "father of the Winona public schools," died on the old Keyes homestead in the eastern part of the city, December 2, 1876, at which time he had been a resident of Winona a little over twenty-three years. The informal union of the two school districts within the city limits, and their harmonious working for nearly four years prior to their legal consolidation, were very largely owing to the disinterestedness, good judgment and abiding interest in educational matters displayed by Mr. Keyes. His work by no means ended with the formation of the school board. As clerk of that board during the first seven years of its existence, during which time the high school building was erected, he became so much an

integral part of the public school administration of the city during that early formative period, that his influence in the educational life of the city can scarcely be overrated. Appropriate resolutions bearing testimony to his valuable services as an officer and member of the city school board were spread upon the records of that body, and the memory of his labors will long survive his generation.

The great fire of July 5, 1862 (to which reference is so frequently made in this work) destroyed the records of the board of education, including the records of the schools which had preceded the organization of the board. It is therefore impossible to give any authentic statement concerning the condition of the schools at the time they passed under the control of the board of education. A general statement made by Mr. Keyes, as secretary of the board, shortly after the fire, appears among the records. From this we learn that April 13, 1861, the board of education, on assuming charge of public school matters in Winona, found themselves in possession, by transfer from the old school districts numbers two and fourteen, of some old school furniture, one terrestrial globe, one set of outline maps, some rented rooms in various parts of the city, some indebtedness, no school buildings or sites in fee, or money. The sum of \$285 was subsequently paid to settle the accounts of one of the old districts, and it is only a reasonable probability, from information obtained, that the board expended about \$500 in settling the affairs of the old districts. The public schools as then existing, April 13, 1861, were one grammar school, or high school, as it was called, of which V. J. Walker was principal, and five primary schools scattered through the various wards of the city, occupying such buildings as could be the most cheaply rented for that purpose. The systematic grading of the schools was immediately undertaken by the board and the entire schoolwork of the city reorganized. The schools as thus established were one high school, *one* grammar school, three secondary and four primary schools. The estimate made for the ensuing three months' expenses, at the expiration of which the school year as equally established would close, was \$1,000. This estimate was approved by the council and the schools opened as organized under the new arrangement. A report of the schoolwork for the fractional year ending August 31, 1861, gives the following figures: Number of children of school age in the district, 772; number of children enrolled in

the schools, 382 ; average attendance, 252. The total expenditures for the three school months were \$932.68, itemized as follows : Teachers' salaries \$703, repairs and furniture \$151.64, rents \$73.04, fuel \$5.

The estimated expenses of the schools from September, 1861, to close of the spring term of 1862 were \$2,175, which added to the amount previously levied, \$1,000, gives a total of \$3,157, to carry on the nine schools of the city from April, 1861, to the close of the school year, August 31, 1862. The work of grading the schools undertaken and partially accomplished the previous year was now completed. The number of schools remained as previously established and the several rooms occupied by them prior to the fire of July 5, 1862, were: primary — (1) Kenosha Ale House; (2) Hancock's building, upstairs ; (3) Hubbard's Hall, second story ; (4) Mrs. J. S. Hamilton's building, in the third ward. Secondary—(1) South room Hancock's building ; (2) Cooper's, then Hancock building ; (3) Hubbard's Hall, first floor. Grammar school was held on the first floor of the Hancock building, north room until April, when it was removed to the brick schoolroom on Front street.

The high school was first in the Hancock building, then in the "brick schoolroom," and from thence removed to the city building when the grammar school took possession of the brick room on Front street. The rentals for the year were \$293, exclusive of the Hancock building, the use of which had been generously donated to the school board by the proprietors.

The election for members of the school board in 1862 was under the act of legislature, approved March 8 of that year, requiring the return of two members from each ward. The members of the board as thus constituted were : first ward — Thomas Simpson ; W. S. Drew, who did not qualify, and the board filled the vacancy by electing E. Worthington ; second ward — T. B. Welch, R. D. Cone ; third ward — F. Kroeger, John Keyes.

On the third Monday in April, as required by law, the board met and organized, with Thomas Simpson president and John Keyes clerk. The Rev. David Burt was elected superintendent of schools for the city, his compensation for services fixed at \$100 per annum, and a like amount voted the clerk as salary. The estimated expenses for carrying on the schools for the year beginning September 1, 1862, are not given in full, but the tax levy submitted to the council for approval was for \$2,945. The whole amount ex-



pendent certainly doubled that sum. The public moneys of 1858 for districts numbers two and fourteen aggregated \$1,130, and at this time, 1862, there was not only a marked increase in the number of school age within the district, but also in the ratio of appropriation to each individual. The wages paid teachers by the board at this time were as follows: principal of high school, per month, \$55; teacher of grammar school, per month, \$35; secondary school, per month, \$22.50; primary school, per month, \$20.

The necessity of establishing the schools in permanent quarters had long been apparent to the friends of education in the city, and the question of building schoolhouses as the state of the treasury would permit from time to time was freely agitated. At some meeting of the board prior to July 5, 1862, a resolution to build a schoolhouse in ward No. 3 was adopted. Lots 5 and 6 in block 15, Hamilton's addition to the city of Winona, were purchased and the contract let for building a ward schoolhouse, at a cost, including lots, of \$1,760. As we do not intend to follow the history of the several schools through their temporary quarters to their final establishment in their present permanent homes, we state here that this first purchase of two lots in block 15 was subsequently followed by the purchase of the entire block, and upon it in 1876 the present Washington school building was erected, as will be more particularly noted hereafter. It was at this juncture, close of spring term of 1862, that the fire, before mentioned, swept away the brick schoolroom on Front street, and destroyed (among scores of others) the office of secretary John Keyes, obliterating every vestige of record concerning the schoolwork of the city, from the opening of Miss Angelia Gere's nursery school in 1852 to the latest minute of the board of education made in June, 1862. \* \* \*

The first meeting after the fire was held June 9, 1862, in the office of the secretary, and vigorous efforts made to provide accommodations for the schools to be opened the ensuing term. These efforts were eminently successful, and the work of the schools was systematically resumed at the opening of the school year. The school report for the year then ended, August 31, 1862, showed no change in the census returns of children of school age within the district from those presented for the previous year, but the enrollment had increased from 382 in 1861 to 419 in 1862. A reduction had in the meantime been made in the number of schools sustained by the board, one of the secondary grade having been discon-

tinued. In October of this year the clerk of the board, as required by law, took the census of children of school age, upon which census returns the division of public moneys to the schools throughout the state was based, and reported an increase of 188 over the census of 1861-2. No special change is to be noted in the schoolwork for the year ending August 31, 1863. The number of schools remained unchanged, and the old officers of the board were continued at the head of affairs, as was also the superintendent. Though no special changes occurred in the schoolwork the board itself was making progress. The school building in ward three was completed as per contract some time in December, 1862, and on January 1, 1863, this, the first school building erected for school purposes by the school authorities of Winona, was dedicated to the uses for which it was constructed. Thomas Simpson, as president of the board of education, presided at the opening exercises, and delivered an appropriate address, the manuscript of which lies before us as we write. Action was taken this year in the matter of purchasing school sites in wards numbers two and three; the salaries of clerk and superintendent were raised to \$150 each per annum; the clerk was instructed to advertise for contracts for a school building in the first ward; the Stearn's schoolhouse, in the second ward, was purchased at a cost of \$415, exclusive of ground rent, which was fixed at \$10 per annum; lots 1 and 2 in block 119, original plat of Winona, were purchased, and contract closed with Mr. Conrad Bohn to erect a school building upon them at a cost, including fencing, of \$2,200. This contract was entered into August 22, 1863, and with this action of the board closed the transactions of that school year. The building on block 15, Hamilton's addition (as also the one now under contract by Mr. Bohn), was a two-story frame, arranged for the accommodation of two schools, one on each floor. The building in the first ward, when completed, was occupied for school purposes by the board, and so continued until the erection of the Madison school building in 1875; since then the old house known as the Jefferson school building has been provisionally turned over to the city council for the use of the fire department.

The census returns for the new school year 1863-4 showed a material increase in the number of children in the city, 1,221 being the number reported by the clerk. The increased number of children demanded increased accommodations, and the school of secondary grade, discontinued in 1862-3, was reopened, making the whole

number of schools under the care of the board ten. January 15, 1864, Mr. Burt resigned his office as superintendent of Winona public schools, and Dr. F. H. Staples, a practicing physician of the city, was elected to fill the vacancy. Dr. Staples discharged the duties of superintendent until September 4, 1865, when he resigned, and was succeeded by Prof. V. J. Walker, who taught the Union Grammar School of the city from the fall of 1859 until the organization of the city school board, when he was elected principal of the high school, April, 1861. Mr. Walker continued to perform his double duties as high school principal and superintendent of city schools until the close of the school year in 1869, at which time he closed a very successful term of ten years as principal of public schools in Winona.

By the charter election of 1864 a change was made in the membership of the board of education, and upon the organization of the board L. B. Tefft was elected president; secretary Keyes still in office. The estimates for the year opening September 1, 1864, were for one high school, one grammar school, four secondary schools, six primary schools, all of which were opened with the exception of one secondary, the total number being eleven schools. To provide for maintaining these during a school year of ten months the estimated tax required was \$12,000, \$5,000 of that amount to apply to a fund for the erection of a suitable central school building, which the necessities of the schools demanded and the wisdom of the board was forecasting. The salaries of teachers at this time had somewhat appreciated. Wages were per month, high school, \$65; grammar school, \$35; secondaries, \$25; primaries, \$22.

The officers of the board were not changed in the spring of 1865, and the school registers bore the names of 806 pupils, the actual enrollment for that year. The estimated expenses for the year opening September 1, 1865, were \$16,500. The actual tax levy was \$9,632.78, with an item of \$5,000 for central school fund. At the close of school year, August 31, 1865, the city owned three wooden buildings, the total valuation of which, including furniture, was \$5,000, the buildings accommodating five of the eleven schools maintained by the board.

The school year 1865-66 was an eventful one. The board had previously selected block 37 of the original town plot, as the site of the proposed central building, and acquired title to several of the lots thereon. The work of receiving possession of the entire block was

pushed vigorously, and on May 15, 1866, title was perfected and the block secured. Bids for the erection of a suitable central school building had been advertised for in the meantime, and contracts awarded to Conrad Bohn, of this city, three days prior to perfecting title. The contract price of structure was \$36,700, the whole costing with furances and furniture about \$52,000. Ground was immediately broken, walls erected and roof put on that season, and the building was completed and accepted by the board September 7, 1867, named by them the High School, and the afternoon of September 13th set apart for its formal dedication, which was accordingly done, Hon. Mark Dunnell, of this state, delivering the dedicatory address. This building is decidedly an ornament to the city, a monument to the public spirit of the citizens, and a credit to the board of education under whose administration it was erected. The block on which it stands is in the very heart of the best residence portion of the city. The building faces north, the main entrance being on Broadway, with side entrances on Walnut and Market streets. It is a substantial, ornate structure, built of brick and stone, rising three full stories above the basement, in which are the furnaces and fuel rooms. The extreme length from east to west is 96 feet; from north to south, 82 feet; height of main walls, 32 feet; of gables, 48 feet; of main ventilating shaft, 72 feet; of minor ventilating turrets, 66 feet; with a tower rising 94 feet from the water-table to the finial.

The basement is nine feet between floors, the first and second stories each thirteen feet and the third story, in which is the assembly room, fifteen feet. A hall eight feet wide running the extreme length of the building, with double doors at each end, affords ample means for entrance and exit. The staircases are four and one-half feet each, and the rooms are fully provided with cloak closets. There are four recitation rooms, each  $28 \times 34$  feet on the main floor, and also on the second. The north half of the third story is the high school room proper, the space on the south side being divided into recitation rooms for high school classes. The building is occupied by the following schools: one high school with three recitation rooms, two grammar schools, three secondary schools lettered A, B, C, four primary schools.

The city superintendent's office is in the tower on the main floor, a comfortable room  $12 \times 12$ , supplied with a small reference library and connected with the city telephone exchange.



The school census, taken in the fall of 1866, showed 1,952 children of school age within the city, an increase of 741 in three years. The census of 1867 showed a further increase 229, making a total of 2,181 for the latter year.

Henry Stevens became president of the board at the annual meeting in April, 1866, secretary Keyes still retaining office. At this meeting the salary of clerk was raised to \$250 per annum, as was also that of the superintendent.

No change was made in the officers of the board at their annual meeting in 1867. When the schools opened in September of that year the salary of high school principal was fixed at \$1,300, and the wages of female teachers \$40 per month.

At the annual spring election in 1868, secretary Keyes was not returned and the board organized with H. D. Huff, president, and John Ball, secretary. The following year, 1869, Mr. Ball gave place to J. M. Sheardown, who held the office of clerk to the "board" until his resignation in December, 1871. At the annual meeting in this year, 1869, the salaries of clerk and superintendent were raised to \$300 each per annum. At the close of this school year a new departure was taken and the office of superintendent of schools separated from the principalship of the high school. This position was offered to Prof. Varney, at a salary of \$1,500 per annum, but he declined the offer, and the office was not filled until October 4, 1869, when the officers of the school board were authorized to employ Prof. W. P. Hood, which was done as ordered. The new superintendent entered immediately upon his work and continued in office until the close of the spring term in 1871.

At the annual meeting in 1870 Gen. C. H. Berry, at present the senior member of the Winona county bar, was elected president of the city school board, and held that position by successive re-elections until he retired from the board in 1878. During these years the beautiful ward schoolhouses in the east and west ends of the city were constructed at an aggregate cost of \$60,000, and the educational work of the city advanced at every point.

June 20, 1871, Prof. F. M. Dodge was elected city superintendent of schools, and his salary fixed at \$1,500 per annum. December 15, 1871, Mr. M. Maverick was elected to the clerkship of the board of education, made vacant by the resignation of J. M. Sheardown, and held that office until the election of Dr. J. M. Cole, at the annual meeting in 1875. December 18, 1871, the board adopted

resolutions recommending the erection of a good three-story brick building in the first ward, and memorializing the city council to procure such legislation as would authorize the issue of \$15,000 of school bonds.

The report of the clerk, made October 1, 1872, showed an increase in the number of schools, census enumeration, enrollment in schools, expenditures, etc., the figures being as follows: One high school, four grammar schools, seven secondary schools, nine primary; 2,427 children of school age, an actual enrollment of 1,414 on the school registers. The total receipts from all sources were shown by the financial statement in August to aggregate \$25,336.68. The schools were maintained during a school year of ten months, and 22 teachers employed; average wages of teachers, gentlemen, \$100 per month; ladies, \$55 per month.

The reports made in 1874 show receipts for the year ending August 31, \$42,987; disbursements, \$28,987; children of school age in the city, 3,098; children enrolled in the schools, 1,339.

The annual election in 1875 placed Dr. Cole, as before said, at the clerk's desk, a position held by him for six years, during which he rendered valuable aid to the educational work of the city. During this school year the Madison school building was completed at a cost of about \$32,000, and in the annual report of the clerk, made August, 1876, the following exhibit appears:

Houses owned by the board, four (two brick and two frame); values of school sites, \$25,000; values of buildings, \$106,060; value of buildings erected during the year, \$31,306; seating capacity of buildings, 1,478; receipts for the year, \$60,891.28; disbursements for the year, \$44,926.40; teachers' wages, \$15,420; average wages, gentlemen, \$120 per month; average wages, ladies, \$50 per month.

The Washington school building a facsimile of the Madison building, was accepted at the hands of the contractor November 17, 1876, and the schools in the eastern part of the city transferred to their new quarters January 1, 1877. The purchase of block 15, Hamilton's addition, upon which the Washington building was erected, has already been noted. This block on which the Madison school building stands is the one adjoining that on which the old Jefferson schoolhouse was built in 1863. This new block, No. 118, was purchased by the board December 21, 1869, as the site of the prospective school building for the first ward. A description of the Madison building will answer for both, as one is almost the perfect

facsimile of the other. The building is a fine three-story brick, stone basement and trimmings, with mansard roof. The extreme length from east to west is 80 feet ; from north to south, 77 feet. The main walls rise 30 feet above the water-table, and the gables 45 feet. The tower is 80 feet high, and height of the several stories as follows : Basement, containing furnaces, fuel and storage room,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  feet to joists overhead ; first and second stories, each 13 feet ; third story, 12 feet. Each floor is divided into four recitation rooms, each  $25 \times 30$  feet, provided with cloakrooms, all the modern appliances for comfort and convenience, and each room seated to accommodate from 40 to 56 pupils, according to grade. The several floors have each a main hall running the extreme length of the building from east to west, with a cross hall. The main halls are 8 feet wide, and the cross halls 6 feet 8 inches in the clear. The building fronts north on Wabasha street, upon which is the main entrance, with side entrances on Dakota and Olmsted streets. Free exit is afforded from the halls on the main floor, in three directions, by spacious doors and stairways, and there are two staircases, each four feet in the clear, leading from the upper stories. The Madison school building is provided with four wood-furnaces, and the Washington school with five. These buildings, with their twelve school-rooms each, and the high-school building with its nine school (and three recitation) rooms, make comfortable provision for thirty-three schools, thirty-two of them now running and, under the able management of superintendent McNaughton, doing efficient work. These three school buildings, each occupying a full block in well-chosen locations, with their ample walks, growing shade-trees, tasteful architectural appearance, and thoroughly furnished rooms, are a just occasion of city pride, the value of sites, buildings and improvements falling little short of \$175,000.

Early in 1877 the board of education recorded its emphatic disapproval of the attempt made in the state legislature to create a "state text-book committee," and dispatched one of their members, Dr. J. B. McGaughey, to St. Paul to express to the legislature the sentiments of the Winona board of education. The obnoxious measure became a law, but Winona schools were exempted from its provisions. The annual meeting in 1877 made no changes in the officers of the board. The reports of the clerk not only showed encouraging progress in school matters, but also a growing liberality on the part of the board in fixing teachers' wages, which were estab-

lished as follows: Principal of high school per month, \$130; assistant, \$60; grammar school teachers, \$60; secondary school teachers, \$55; primary school teachers, \$50. The enrollment for the year was 1,820, and the average attendance 1,260. The total receipts of the board for the year were \$60,243.69, and the year closed with \$15,968 in the treasury.

In the spring of 1878 Dr. J. B. McGaughey became president of the board; Prof. Dodge was followed by Prof. Irwin Shepard as city superintendent of schools; the financial exhibit showed receipts in excess of \$60,000, expenditures a little over \$45,000. There was a hitch in the city council over the authorization of the tax levy required by law, and clerk Cole reported his ability to carry the schools through the school year with the aid of a temporary loan, which was accordingly done, no school tax being levied for that year. In 1879 Dr. T. A. Pierce was elected president of the board, Prof. Shepard was followed by Prof. W. F. Phelps as city superintendent of schools, and the enrollment for the year showed a decrease of about 150 over the enrollment of 1877. This fact was due to the opening of several parochial schools in the city.

Matters were in statu quo during 1880, but in 1881 Dr. Cole retired from the clerkship of the board, after six years' consecutive service, and was followed by W. J. Whipple, who held that office two years. Dr. Pierce continued at the head of the board, and in the fall Prof. J. W. McNaughton, the present superintendent of schools, assumed educational control.

The annual meeting in 1882 was principally noted for the protracted contest for president, in which an adjournment was had to the following evening, after 130 ballots were cast. At the adjourned meeting Dr. J. B. McGaughey was elected president of the board upon the 187th ballot.

The election held the evening of April 20, 1883, continued Dr. McGaughey in the chair, and elected Arthur Beyerstedt clerk of the board.

A summary of the schools as now existing and controlled by city superintendent McNaughton is in brief as follows:

*High School Building.*—One high school, of which Thomas L. Heaton, graduate of Michigan State University, class of 1880, is principal. His assistants are Mr. J. J. Helmer, Misses J. Mitchell and Frances Elmer. One grammar school; three secondary schools, A, B, C; four primary schools. Total schools in high school build-



ing, 9; total enrollment, 564; number of regular teachers, 12. The curriculum of the high school is appended:

Class.	Term.	Time.	Required for all Courses.	Required for all Courses.	Third Study for Classical.	Third Study for Scientific.	Third Study for Business Course.
D	1	4 mo.	Algebra Com.	English Composition	Latin	German	Com. Arithmetic
	2	3 mo.	Geometry	Zoology	Latin	German	Essentials of Eng. Gram.
	3	3 mo.	Geometry	Botany	Latin	German	Civil Government
C	1	4 mo.	Geometry	Physiology	Cæsar	Lessing	Bookkeeping
	2	3 mo.	Physical Geography	Physics	Cæsar	Lessing	Industrial Drawing
	3	3 mo.	Physical Geography	Physics	Cæsar	Lessing	
B	1	4 mo.	Chemistry	General History	Virgil	Schiller	
	2	3 mo.	Chemistry	General History	Virgil	Schiller	
	3	3 mo.		Geology	Virgil	Schiller	
A	1	4 mo.	Rhetoric	Geology	Cicero	Goethe	
	2	3 mo.	English Literature	Mental Science	Cicero	Goethe	
	3	3 mo.	English Literature	Political Economy	Cicero	Goethe	

*Madison School.*—One grammar department, in charge of Miss Mary Youmans; three secondary schools; eight primary schools. Total enrollment, 623; total schools, 12.

*Washington School.*—One grammar department, under care of Alvin Braley; three secondary schools; seven primary schools. Total schools, 11; total enrollment, 636.

The entire educational force of the city comprises, for its public schools, 1 superintendent, 35 regular and 2 special teachers, the schools under their charge having a total enrollment of 1,823 scholars. This enrollment is about the same as that of 1877, to which is to be added the 700 pupils enrolled in the parochial schools. There has, however, been a most gratifying improvement in the average daily attendance, the reports showing an increase of 300 in the average attendance of to-day over that of 1877, under the same nominal enrollment. There is no longer a school census taken, and the number of children between the ages of 5 and 21 in the city cannot be given. The estimate is made of about 4,000; but if the proportion of enrollment to total number of school age was maintained now as in years past, the number would be considerably in excess of 5,000.

The work of the parochial school appears in connection with the history of the various parishes by which they are maintained.

## CHAPTER XLI.

### HISTORY OF WINONA CITY.

WHEN the county of Fillmore was created out of Wabasha county by special act of territorial legislature, approved March 5, 1853, the new county thus created was organized for judicial purposes and divided into electoral precincts. One of these precincts was called the Winona precinct, and included within its limits the territory embraced in the level bottom lands on the west side of the Mississippi river in latitude 44 degrees north, longitude 14 degrees and 30 minutes west from Washington, and known as Wabasha prairie. The life of Winona precinct as thus constituted was of short duration. By special act of territorial legislature, approved February 23, 1854, Fillmore county was in turn divided and the present county of Winona formed, its boundaries fixed as now existing, and Winona designated as the county seat. Under the provisions of this act, a special election was held April 4, 1854, within the several precincts as then designated by the county commissioners of Fillmore county, for the purpose of choosing county and precinct officers. These commissioners were Henry C. Gere, Myron Toms and Wm. T. Luark. The precinct officers to be elected were, two justices of the peace, two constables and one road supervisor. Under the Fillmore county administration the precinct officers were appointed by the governor of the territory, and for Winona precinct were, John Burns and John M. Gere, justices of the peace; Frank W. Curtis, constable; and Geo. W. Clark, road supervisor. These officers held their seats until the regular territorial election, on the second Tuesday in October, when Geo. W. Gere and Wm. H. Stevens were elected justices of the peace and F. W. Curtis, constable. The terms of office for which these gentlemen were elected expired by operation of the special act of February 23, 1854, ordering a special election to be held April 4 ensuing. The judges of election were appointed by the Fillmore county commissioners, the election held as ordered, and Winona precinct, besides casting her vote for the regular county officers, elected for herself as justices of the peace Wm. H. Stevens and Geo. H. Sanborn, and for constable,

Frank W. Curtis. No official record of this election is on file in the office in this county, as the returns were made to Fillmore county. The Winona county commissioners, elected April 4, 1854, met at Winona, the seat of government for the new county, April 28, of that same year, and the following day, April 29, 1854, redistricted the county. By this partition Winona county was divided into six electoral precincts; one of these was named Winona and described as township No. 107 north, range 7, west of the fifth principal meridian. As will be noted by the description, the precinct of Winona, as then formed, was identical in its boundaries with the present township of Winona, including the corporate limits of the city of Winona. The official term for which these offices were filled in April expired when the regular election for the territory was held the ensuing October. The official returns of this election—the very existence of which seemed unknown until they were unearthed for us by ex-county auditor Basford from among the musty archives of the county records—give the following as the result: justices of the peace, S. K. Thompson, A. C. Jones; constables, F. W. Curtis, A. C. Smith; road supervisor, Enoch Hamilton. It does not appear from any records in the office of register of deeds, or from any acknowledgment upon any instrument extant, or from the memory of any one familiar with those times, that A. C. Jones ever qualified as justice of the peace or exercised the functions of that office. There is abundance of parole evidence to show that G. H. Sanborn continued to exercise the authority of justice for months after the October election, and in connection with S. K. Thompson “preserved the peace” in Winona precinct.

The election of 1855 returned Henry Day and John Keyes, justices; Harvey S. Terry and W. H. Peck, constables; and Wm. Doolittle, road supervisor.

The officers elected in 1856 were: justices of the peace, G. R. Tucker, I. B. Andrews; constables, Harvey S. Terry, C. C. Bartlett; road supervisor, Asa Hedge. This was the last precinct election in which the residents within the city limits took part. The term of office for which the above election was held expired with the charter election held Monday, April 6, 1857.

From the formation of Fillmore county, March 5, 1853, until the charter election for the newly incorporated city was held, four years and one month later, the settlers on Wabasha prairie were subject only to such general laws and regulations as had been enacted

by territorial authority for the government of such communities as were uninvested with corporate rights and privileges. This day had passed by for Winona and she was now to enter upon the larger and more responsible work of creating a city government, and administering its affairs, answerable only to herself within the limits of her corporate franchises. Before entering upon this phase of the history of Winona, it is necessary that some idea should be given of the growth in population and the material progress made by the little community from the date of its planting to the eve of its incorporation, and for this purpose a brief reference to these matters will be all that is necessary.

The population of Winona county at the date of its organization is generally placed a little below 800 — a slow growth, and one not destined to be much accelerated during the year and a half that followed. The attractions of southern Minnesota, to which Winona has ever been the chief gateway, seemed generally disregarded, and the rush of settlement was farther north along the Minnesota river; the St. Paul press growing so eloquent in its descriptions of the beauty and fertility of that valley as to attract the attention of prospective settlers to that region. The protracted occupation of this section of Minnesota by the Indians, their final removal not having been effected until the autumn of 1853, had much to do in preventing the early settlement of southeastern Minnesota. But when the vast territory lying west of Winona was opened to settlement in the summer of 1855, and the government land office established here in November of that year, the change from the dull inactivity of the previous year was almost marvelous. The influx of population, the rapid increase in the number of business houses of all kinds, the activity manifest in every department of trade, the impetus given to all speculative movements, the number of buildings in course of erection, all testified to the fact that a new day and a better one had dawned upon the prospective metropolis of southern Minnesota. The condition of affairs at the close of the year 1856 may be summed up as follows: The population had increased from about 800 in December, 1855, to 3,000 in December, 1856. There had been erected during the year 290 buildings of all kinds, among them three good churches, a large four-story warehouse, a commodious hotel (the Huff House, now standing), a steam flouring-mill with five run of stones, a large three-story banking building, besides scores of others of less note, yet decidedly creditable to the young city. An idea of

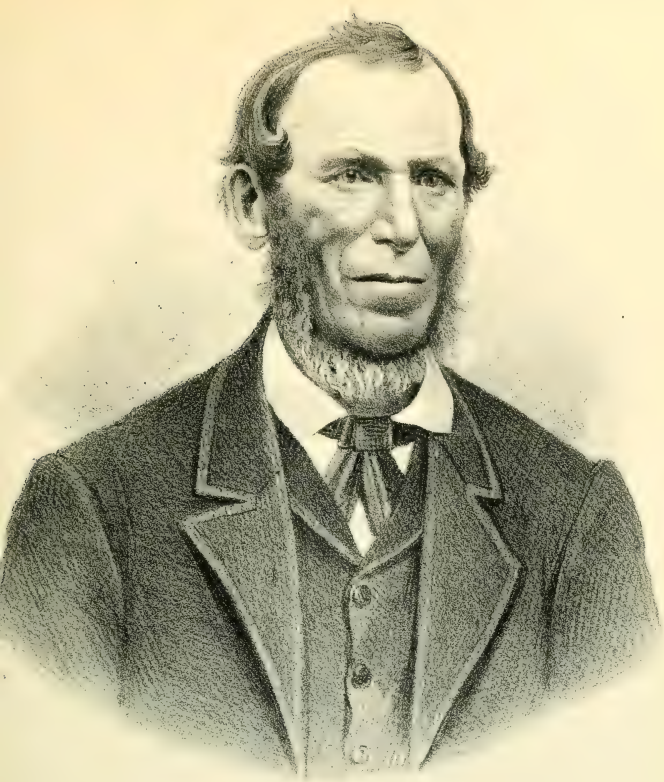


the value of real property may be had from these specimen quotations of sales of real estate, taken from the columns of the "Winona Republican" of that date: "A lot on Second street, between Center and Lafayette, 40×100 feet, \$1,600 cash; two corner lots on Walnut street, \$1,800; a lot, 80 × 140 feet, corner of Second and Center streets, \$6,000." The manufacturing establishments were two steam saw-mills, one steam planing-mill, one steam flouring-mill, one cabinet manufactory with steam power. The river was open to navigation from April 8 to November 17, and during that time there were 1,300 arrivals and departures of boats. A tri-weekly line of steamers was maintained for greater part of the season between Winona and Dubuque, and the forwarding and commission business for that season aggregated \$182,731.96. There were fourteen attorneys-at-law and nine physicians waging war against crime and death, and about 150 business houses, stores, shops, etc., distributed as follows: Dry goods, 14; groceries and provisions, 16; clothing, 7; hardware and tin, 6; drugs, 5; boots and shoes, 4; furniture, 4; books, 2; hat and fur store, 2; wholesale liquors, 2; hotels and taverns, 13; eating-houses and saloons, 10; lumber yards, 5; blacksmith shops, 3; warehouses, 4; brickyards, 2; livery stables, 2; sign painters, 3; watchmakers, 3; butchers, 2; wagon and carriage shop, 2; fanning-mill maker, 1; gunsmith shop, 2; bakeries, 2; dentists, 3; gaugenean artist, 1; banking-offices, 6; real estate and insurance, 10; printing-offices, 2; harness shop, 2; barber shop, 3. To these may be added five churches and two schools, and you have a fair summary of Winona business at the close of the year 1856. The original plat of Winona, surveyed June 19, 1852, by John Ball, for Erwin H. Johnson and Orrin Smith, was so set apart and recorded under the revised territorial statutes of 1851, in accordance with the town site act passed by congress May 23, 1844. This original plat was bounded on the north by the Mississippi river, on the east by Market street, on the south by Wabasha street, and on the west by Washington street. It comprised a square, each side of which was six full blocks. This plat was enlarged from time to time by "additions," until at the close of 1856 the platted area on Wabasha prairie covered a tract of ground fully two miles in extent from east to west and nearly half that distance from north to south. The principal of these additions was never recorded as such, and is generally known as Huff's survey of the city of Winona. This survey and dedication was made in 1854, and extended from the original town plat on the east to Chute's

addition on the west, a total length of seven blocks and a fraction, and covering an area considerably larger than the original plat itself. This addition does not now appear on the maps as such, and for years has been included and its blocks numbered as a part of the original town plat. The more important of the subsequent additions were Laird's addition and subdivision, immediately east of the original plat. These covered an area of about 80 acres in extent, fronting north on the river and extending some half-dozen blocks to the south. Hamilton's addition, lying east of Laird's, was the largest of any of the plats, original or additional. It comprised an area of 160 acres, extending westward beyond the macadamized road leading to Sugar-loaf Bluff, and running backward eight or ten blocks from the river. Within its limits are some of the most populous sections of the city. These, with Taylor & Co's addition, and Sanborn's and Hubbard's, all on the south, and Chute's addition on the west, were platted and dedicated before the close of the year 1856. Beyond the limits of these additions but little building has been done, save in the Polish quarter just east of Hamilton's addition, and in the vicinity of the wagon-works just west of Chute's addition. The latter of these settlements, in what is known as Evans' addition, is rapidly building up, and will some day be a populous portion of the city, lying, as it does, in the immediate vicinity of the manufacturing establishments recently located in west Winona.

That the county seat of Winona county was destined at no distant day to become a city of no mean proportions was very early accepted as a fact by her citizens, and preparations for investing her with corporate rights and privileges were not long delayed. As early as November 11, 1856, the "Winona Republican," in a brief editorial, called attention to the matter of securing a city charter, and suggested the necessity of taking definite action, alleging that the movement would be heartily supported by all the members of the territorial legislature from the southern Minnesota districts. A meeting of the citizens was accordingly called for Saturday evening, January 3, 1857. The response to the call was quite general. The meeting was held in Central Hall, and organized with Edward Ely, better known as Elder Ely, in the chair. W. C. Dodge was elected secretary, the business of the hour stated, the measure of incorporation approved, and after considerable discussion as to corporate boundaries, etc., a committee was appointed to draft a charter, and report the same at an adjourned meeting to be held on the following

Saturday evening. The members of that committee, three only of whom are now residents of Winona, were: G. W. Curtis, W. Newman, C. H. Berry, William Windom, M. Wheeler Sargent, John Keyes and Edward Ely. On Saturday evening, the 10th inst., the citizens met, pursuant to adjournment of previous week, to hear the report of their committee. Hon. C. H. Berry, on behalf of the committee, presented the report, which at their instance he had drafted, together with an abstract of charter. The only question upon which differences of opinion arose was as to the proper limits for the proposed incorporation. Some were in favor of quite extended corporation boundaries, others advocated a comparatively limited boundary. The report favored extending the boundaries of the city to include the causeways over the slough at the east and west ends of town, the following reasons being adduced: That, as the maintenance of good approaches to the city more nearly concerned the citizens of the corporation than those outside its limits, the control and repair of the roads over the sloughs, by which access to town was only possible, should be under the care of the city; that the vote of the county outside the city limits being in excess of that polled within the city, it would not be wise to allow the county vote, which might or might not approve the expenditures for maintaining these causeways in good repair, to control a matter so essential to the interests of the city; that as the city would certainly reap the most benefit, it was only just that she should incur the responsibility of the increased outlay; that it was a question whether the county had any right to appropriate moneys for a work so nearly sectional in its character; and that in any event the more liberal policy would be for the city to assume the burden, leaving the county authorities free to assist in bearing it if at any time they saw fit. It was also represented that by extending the corporate limits a larger proportion of property-holders whose lands would be increased in value by their nearness to a large city would be taxed to defray the city expenses. The reasons of which the above is a brief summary were approved, the report adopted, the abstract of charter commended and returned to the committee with instructions to complete the draft and submit it as a completed charter for the adoption of the citizens at a meeting to be held the following Saturday evening, January 17, 1857. This was accordingly done, and the accepted charter was forwarded to St. Paul, where it came before the



L.W. WRIGHT.





territorial legislature, passed, and the act formally incorporating the city of Winona was approved March 6 of that same year 1857, and became law immediately after its adoption.

## ACT OF INCORPORATION.

By the provisions of this act the extreme southeastern limit of the city was established just where the western boundary of Winona township touches the south shore of the Mississippi river. From this point the boundary line of the corporation was run due west four miles, thence north two miles, thence east to the middle of the Mississippi river, thence in a southeasterly direction down the middle of the stream to a point due north of the place of beginning. The ground thus inclosed within the corporate limits of the city formed an irregular four-sided figure; its south boundary a right line four miles long, its west boundary a right line two miles long, its north boundary a right line running east about one and a-half miles to the shore of the river, from which point it followed the irregular shore line southeasterly to the west line of Winona township. The city was divided into three wards. The first ward embracing all that portion of the city lying west of Washington street. The second ward extending eastward from Washington to Lafayette streets, and the third ward including all between Lafayette street and the city limits on the east. The wards thus established were each to constitute an electoral precinct, the judges of election for which (at the ensuing charter election) were to be appointed by the county commissioners, as was the case in all precinct elections. The charter election was ordered to be held on the first Monday in April, polls to open at twelve o'clock and close at four o'clock, and the officers to be chosen were, one mayor, one recorder, one justice of the peace, one marshal, one assessor, one attorney, one surveyor and two aldermen for each ward. The mayor, aldermen and recorder to form the city council.

Tuesday, April 7, 1857, the first charter election for the city of Winona was held, when the following vote was cast.

OFFICE.	CANDIDATE.	VOTES POLLED.
Mayor	R. D. Cone	291
	M. Wheeler Sargent	405
Recorder	E. A. Gerdtsen	331
	James White	323
Treasurer	J. V. Smith	401
	H. B. Upman	291

OFFICE.	CANDIDATES.	VOTES POLLED.
Marshal	E. A. Batchelder	293
	G. W. Horton	213
	N. Hudson	106
	P. B. Palmer	142
Attorney	H. W. Lamberton	439
	D. S. Norton	246
Surveyor	L. Pettibone	274
	H. B. Cozzens	417
Justice	Thomas Simpson	414
	H. Day	276
Assessor	First Ward, O. M. Lord	97
	" " C. H. Blanchard	41
	Second Ward, A. P. Foster	107
	" " V. Simpson	94
	Third Ward, I. Hubbard	109
	" " P. P. Hubbell	291
Aldermen	First Ward, W. H. Dill	94
	" " I. B. Andrus	81
	" " I. D. Ford, M. D.	58
	" " P. V. Bell	43
	Second Ward, Tim Kerk	124
	" " G. W. Payne	113
	" " Sam Cole	88
	" " Geo. H. Sanborn	80
	Third Ward, J. Bolcom	217
	" " Jacob Mowery	205
	" " E. H. Murray	127
	" " G. Lautenslager	127

From these returns it appears that the maximum vote cast was for marshal, for which office 754 votes were polled; the vote for recorder being the minimum, 654. The average vote was about 685 to 690. The third ward vote was equal to the votes of the first and second ward in the ballot for aldermen, and led those wards in the vote for assessor, 400 votes being cast in the third ward for that office and only 339 in both the others. The usual proportion of population to voters would have given Winona at this time a census of 3,770 souls, so that the estimate of 3,000 population for the city was probably not much out of the way.

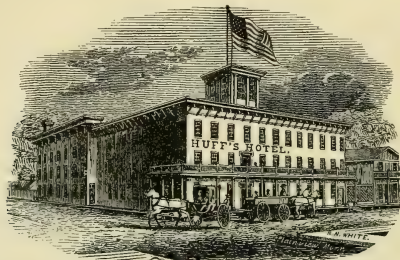
The city limits were not long unchanged. The following year, 1858, the act of incorporation was so amended as to change the city boundaries on the south and east. By this change, and an immaterial one made nine years later, the southern boundary was fixed to conform in some degree to the south shore of lake Winona, and some quarter-sections were taken off the western end of the corporation as originally bounded. By these acts about one and one-half square miles were taken from the area of the city as established by act of March, 1857. By act of February 10, 1870, a further curtailment of a quarter of a section was made, at which time the tract in

the extreme west end of the city, known as the fair-ground, was set outside the city limits, and these are the only changes made in the boundaries of the city since its incorporation. The ward changes have not been numerous. February 15, 1865, the boundary line between the second and third wards was removed two streets east of that upon which it was originally established and Market street made the division line. When the whole act of incorporation was amended, March 1, 1867, the boundary between the first and second wards was moved one street east and Johnson street became the separating line. February 28, 1876, a radical change was made. The city was divided into four wards, and their boundaries respectively were, for the first ward, that portion of the city lying westward between the center of Washington street and the city limits ; second ward, that portion lying between Washington street on the west and Walnut street on the east ; third ward, that portion extending from Walnut street on the west to Vine street on the east, and the fourth ward, that portion lying within the city limits eastward from the center of Vine street. These changes were all made by special act of Minnesota legislature and are the only ones made in the several ward boundaries to date.

Several changes, some of them quite important, have been made from time to time in the list of city officers, both as regards the nature of the office and the status of the officer. Under the original act of incorporation the elective officers of the city were: one mayor, one recorder, one treasurer, one marshal, one attorney, one surveyor, one justice of the peace, one assessor and six aldermen. Some misapprehension concerning the election of assessors must have occurred at the first charter election, as three assessors were returned, one for each ward, a thing not contemplated by the act. The term of office for aldermen and justice was fixed at two years, all other official terms one year. By the act of March 8, 1862, the number of justices was increased to two, and the recorder, though still an elective officer, was denied any vote or voice in the proceedings of the council, his duties being to keep a report of the council proceedings, to make an annual estimate in August of the current expenses for the year and of the revenue necessary to be raised therefor. A radical change in the list of elective officers was made by the act of March, 1865, which defined said officers to be a mayor, two aldermen from each ward, two justices of the peace and city treasurer. The offices to be filled by appointment of the council



were : recorder, marshal, assessor, attorney and surveyor, and the first regular meeting after the charter election was designated as the time and place of appointment. All terms of office, except those of aldermen, which remained unchanged, were fixed at one year, the rule to apply to offices filled either by election or appointment. By act of 1867 the original act was so amended as to virtually constitute a new one. By the later act the officers to be chosen by the people were : mayor, two aldermen for each ward, two justices of the peace, a treasurer and an assessor. The terms of office were as before established by act of March, 1865, with the exception of justices of the peace, whose term was fixed at two years. The officers to be appointed by the council were : recorder, marshal, surveyor, attorney and street commissioner. All persons otherwise qualified



to vote for county and state officers were made eligible to vote at any city election in the election district, of which at time of voting they had been for ten days resident, and were also qualified thereby to hold any city office to which they might be elected. All officers, elected and appointed, were required to take an oath of office, and bonds were to be given by the marshal and treasurer. The city justices were given exclusive jurisdiction over all cases and complaints arising under the ordinances, police regulations, laws and by-laws of the city ; the powers of the council were fully set forth *in extenso*, and they were duly empowered to act in all matters pertaining to the peace, cleanliness and safety of the city, as also to the security and public conduct of the citizens. This "act," "virtually the one under which the city authorities now act," was declared to be of a public character and not contravened by any general law of the state conflicting with its provisions, unless so expressly stated

in the enactment of such general law. By act of February, 1870, council was restrained from incurring an indebtedness in excess of \$10,000 for any specific purpose without first submitting the same to the voters of the city and receiving the sanction of two-thirds of the votes cast, for and against the measure. By special act of April, 1876, aldermen were prohibited from receiving any compensation for their services, either directly or indirectly. A new departure in making up the official list of the city was taken in 1877, by authority of an act passed that spring. Under this amendment the officers to be elected were: a mayor, treasurer, recorder, assessor, attorney, marshal, street commissioner, surveyor, physician, two aldermen for each ward and two justices of the peace; the council, as heretofore, having authority to appoint such additional officers as in their judgment the interests of the city required. The term of all officers elected by the people was fixed at two years, and of those appointed by the council one year. The experiment did not prove satisfactory, and in 1879 this act was repealed by an amendment, making the officers chosen by the people to consist of mayor, treasurer, assessor, whose terms of office were for one year; and two aldermen for each ward, and two justices, whose terms, as before, remained fixed at two years. By this amendment city justices were clothed with all the rights pertaining to justices elected under the general laws of the state, as well as the exclusive jurisdiction before given them, over all actions and complaints arising under the laws, ordinances, by-laws and police regulations of the city.

THE LIST OF MAYORS, RECORDERS, ASSESSORS, TREASURERS, MARSHALS, JUSTICES OF THE PEACE AND ALDERMEN, FROM THE DATE OF THE INCORPORATION OF WINONA, TO INCLUDE THE CHARTER ELECTION OF APRIL 2, 1883, IS AS FOLLOWS:

[illegible]

\* Prior to 1862 there was only one justice. Since that time Jacob Story has acted continuously as the second justice of the peace.

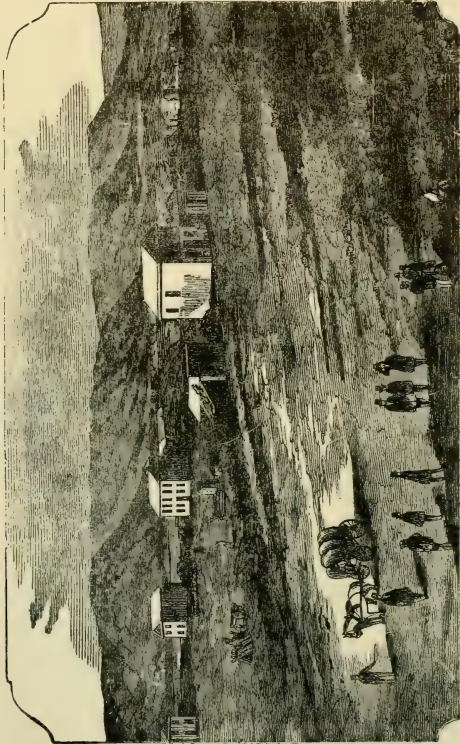
## CHAPTER XLII.

### ROADS.

ONE of the most vital needs of the young city—a need felt for some time prior to her incorporation as well as for years afterward—was that of better roads leading into the surrounding country, from which her local trade was to come. This want of good highways—a want in some degree common to all new settlements—was doubly felt in the case of Winona, owing to her peculiar topographical position. The long narrow stretch of low bottom land forming Wabasha prairie, and upon the lower end of which the city is built, is inclosed in a regular pocket by the Mississippi river bluffs, which back of the city are nearly two miles from the river bank. These bluffs, rising from 300 to 500 feet in height, gradually encroach upon the bottom lands above and below the city until they abut directly upon the river, thus forming the termini of Wabasha prairie. This entire tract of bottom land was at no distant day covered by the waters of the river, great portions of it at the present being subject to overflow during times of exceptionally high water. The whole river face of the prairie is seamed and indented by little creeks and bays wherever the low lands lie, and in these localities the sandy soil of the higher levels is displaced by a marshy, boggy soil which affords very insecure footing for man or beast. The springs which ooze out of the ground at the foot of the limestone bluffs in the rear of the city, together with those forming up the valleys, which are the natural outlets through the bluffs to the high table lands above and running down them to the river, are collected in a natural reservoir just within the city limits on the south. This reservoir or basin, usually called Winona lake, is a shallow sheet of water nearly 500 rods in length and about eighty rods wide, with extensive tracts of low marshy land at either extremity, particularly at the outlet on the east, where the marsh is fully a mile in width. At all times of high water these marshy lands have been subject to overflow, and at even the lowest stage of the river the approach to the city from the east and southeast was through a slough only rendered at all passable by the dense growth of bottom grass, which served as a mat to prevent teams from being hopelessly



mired. The approach from the southwest was much more favorable, but by no means such as heavily loaded teams would care to attempt. The road to the west and north along the tongue of higher land leading to Minnesota City was the only desirable road leading out of town, and in fact the only one possible during seasons of moderately high



WINONA IN 1854.

water. But even this road was frequently impassable, as was the case in 1852, and on occasions since that date, when Winona was actually an island, cut off from all communication by land with the surrounding country and approachable only by boat in any direction. This Minnesota City road, or the road to the Rolling Stone settlement, as it was

then called, was the first highway for which any survey was made in this whole region of country; and with this crude survey, made without special regard to anything save a practical wagon road to the Rolling Stone plateau, and reported to the county commissioners of Fillmore county without maps or field notes to accompany it, this crude survey marked the beginning of all attempts to improve the highways within the limits of the present Winona county. Settlement in the county was made rapidly in the late summer and fall of 1855, and the mouths of Burns and Gillmore valleys opened to receive the settlers that, passing through these gateways of the Winona bluffs, sought the level prairie lands lying back from the river. To connect these valleys with the little town on the river, and open up such roadways as would permit loaded teams to pass and repass from the river to the farms just being opened, became every week more and more a necessity. As early as 1855 a narrow trail, called by courtesy a road, with bunches of prairie grass and here and there a few poles, and in exceptionally difficult places a plank had been extended across the slough between the lower end of town and Sugar-Loaf bluff, or Glen-Mary as it soon afterward began to be called. In 1856, the year in which Winona made such rapid strides in population and in all material growth, a movement was made to construct a permanent roadway across this slough. E. S. Smith, then living at the foot of Sugar-Loaf bluff, headed a subscription for that purpose with a pledge of \$500. Others followed until the subscription amounted to about \$3,000, when the contract was awarded to Van Gorder & Mallory to grade the slough and put in a bridge. The contract price was \$3,500, and the stipulation was for a roadbed twenty-six feet wide on the bottom, twenty-four feet wide on the top, the embankment to be raised three feet above the slough level, and a bridge 150 feet long to be built above high-water mark. The embankment reached from the solid ground on the south side of the slough almost at the foot of Sugar-Loaf bluff to the solid ground, which was reached a few rods south of the present track of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad. The extreme length of this embankment was not far from 1,500 yards, and the work was completed as per contract very much to the gratification of those who were compelled to find an entrance to the city in that quarter or make the entire circuit of the lake to find a poor road at best at the western extremity of the city. The work so satisfactorily begun by private subscription was continually improved under the street commissioner of the city un-

til 1873, when, under instruction of the council's committee on streets and alleys, street commissioner O'Day raised the embankment to an average height of five feet above the level of the slough, laid up the sides of the embankment with a good stone wall sloping one foot inward for each three feet of its height, and carried the embankment to about seven feet in height at the bridge. This work was prosecuted to the city limits on the south from a point a few rods south of Mark street, a total distance of about 100 rods. Near Mark street it reached the grade of the macadamized road constructed by James Burke for the city, down Fifth street and Mankato avenue toward Sugar-Loaf bluff as far as the north margin of the slough. This combined work afforded a good solid roadbed through the deep sand at the east end of town, as well as over the slough to the city limits on the south. From this point the county commissioners took charge of the embankment and raised it from the city limits to the foot of Sugar-Loaf bluff to correspond with the grade made by the city. The length of the embankment thus raised by the county authorities was nearly three-eighths of a mile, and the total cost of the work done by them there at various times has aggregated about \$7,500.

The road as now built, though not absolutely above high-water mark, having been completely submerged by the flood of 1880, is nevertheless practically fit for travel at all seasons of the year, and affords free access to the city for the residents in Pleasant valley, Gilmore valley, upper and lower Burns valleys, and the roads to Homer and the southeast quarter of the county in general.

In 1857 some improvement was made in the approach to town from the west, and about \$800 expended in grading and in building a bridge 150 feet long over the slough on the Stockton road. This work, embankment and bridge, was carried out by the high water of 1858, and in 1859 the county, acting in concert with the city, contracted with S. D. Van Gorder to put in a pile bridge 200 feet long and cast up an embankment about 600 yards long across the slough between town and the Stockton bluffs. The contract price for this work was \$3,500, of which sum the city paid \$3,000, the funds being raised as heretofore, by subscription. In the meantime the city's trade with that section of the county lying over and beyond the Stockton hills had so increased that the city deemed it advisable to prepare the way for its coming. The proposed route was over the Stockton bluffs, by which a saving of several miles would be

effected, as also travel through the deep sand of the Minnesota city road, along which the trade from the west was necessitated to enter Winona. Two contracts for grading the bluffs and making a winding roadway perfectly practicable for loaded teams were awarded. One to John Keator for constructing the road on the eastern slope, the other on the west, to Van Gorder & Mallory, the stipulated price in each case being \$4,000. Gullies were to be bridged, immense boulders removed, the face of solid limestone cliffs blasted away, timber cut and stumps and roots grubbed out, the roadway carried for rods upon supporting walls of stone built up from some favoring ledge below, or shored up from the bluff sides, and such a grade established as would make the road practicable as a regular thoroughfare for loaded teams in either direction. The work was laid out by civil engineer N. J. Hilbert, and its difficulties can only be known and its magnitude appreciated by those who have the pleasure of a trip over it. It is a roadway fully four miles long winding up one side of the bluff and down the other, from the level bottom lands of the Wabasha prairie to the fertile valley of the Stockton, or conversely from the quiet Stockton vales to the bustling activity of the commercial center of southern Minnesota. The \$8,000 for the prosecution of this work was also raised in Winona by private personal subscription. To this amount the county has subsequently added the sum of \$10,000 in improving the road at various times, the outlay to date being, as nearly as can be ascertained, about \$18,000 to \$18,500. The result is a pleasant, safe and thoroughly picturesque road, affording a really delightful drive for any lover of nature, as during it some charming glimpses of wood and water are obtained, valley, bluff and river scenery alternating the view. The road over the bluffs, just east of Woodlawn cemetery on the south side of lake Winona, was not built without the aid of Winona citizens, who contributed about \$500 to that work. The roadways at the upper and lower ends of town, and the Stockton bluff work, was all done as early as 1861, the funds provided by private subscription of Winona citizens, their contributions for these several improvements aggregating not less than \$16,000. To this should be added the expense of macadamizing the east end of Fifth street, and commissioner O'Day's work on the Sugar-Loaf road, as these improvements were in the interest of public highways leading into the city. This would give a grand total of \$23,000 expended by the city in the single matter of highways leading out of the city



on the Minnesota side of the river. Creditable as this expenditure is to the liberal public spirit of the citizens of Winona, the expenditures of the corporation for a like purpose on the Wisconsin side of the river have been considerably greater. The country lying just across the Mississippi river in Wisconsin, and naturally tributary to Winona, only needed some means of communication with her markets to contribute its quota to the trade of the city rising on the Minnesota shore. Charters to establish ferries at this point had been granted in 1855 and in 1857, but nothing resulted from the grants in either case and the privileges expired by limitation. With the close of the war, and with active preparations for increased business, interest in the ferry project revived, and in 1865, A. DeGraff, under contract with the city of Winona — which had been authorized by legislative act to expend moneys in Wisconsin for that purpose — agreed to build a road from the Wisconsin shore of the river, opposite the Winona levee, across the bottom lands of Buffalo township in Buffalo county, Wisconsin, to the higher lands near the foot of the Wisconsin bluffs. The contract price of the work was \$5,500, but before it was completed the city had paid nearly double that amount. This road was always subject to overflow. The bottom lands were literally seamed with creeks and bayous, so that the undertaking was one of no light character. For some reason the result was not satisfactory. The high water of 1870 took out the bridges and cut into the embankment, rendering the road unfit for travel. In the meantime the state fair was to be held that season at Winona, and means of communication across the Buffalo bottoms became more and more urgent. S. D. Van Gorder, who owned and operated the Winona ferry, contracted to repair the embankment and rebuild the bridges. The sum of \$400 was raised by subscription; the work was done at a total cost of \$775. Some portions of the \$400 subscription remained unpaid and the balance came out of Mr. Van Gorder's pocket, who, during the ten years that he operated his ferry, paid out not less than \$1,500 in repairing the roads across the Wisconsin bottoms.

In the fall of 1882, the city having taken the management and operation of the ferry into its own hands, in order to reduce expenses of crossing, and if practicable to make the ferry rates merely nominal, if not to abolish them entirely, concluded to make a permanent improvement in the approach to the ferry. The contract was let to S. D. Van Gorder, and its stipulations called for a roadway thirty-

eight feet wide at the bottom, eighteen feet wide on the top, an average fill across the bottom to the high land of seven feet above the slough level, the streams to be bridged as indicated in the specifications, the embankment to be substantially riprapped on both slopes and the top of the roadbed covered with macadam to the depth of one foot. The contract with Van Gorder was for \$9,500, and only included earthwork and bridging. The contract for stone and stonework was awarded to H. J. Willis for \$10,252. The road, as now constructed under these contracts, is about 4,000 feet long, there are five bridges having an aggregate length of 1,200 feet, and in these are 1,160 feet of piling. The surface of the roadbed, as now standing, is one and a-half feet below the high water mark of 1880. To meet this expense in the Wisconsin bottoms, the city issued her bonds for \$30,000, payable in twenty years, and negotiated the most of them at five per cent interest per annum.

Thus it appears that the people and corporation of Winona, in order to improve the roadways leading to the city upon both sides of the river, have expended the sum of nearly \$55,000, and of this amount nearly one-half has been raised by private subscription. The city's expenditures in other directions have been no less liberal, as will appear in the history of matters more directly connected with the proceedings of her common council.

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## CHAPTER XLIII.

### SOCIETIES.

#### INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD-FELLOWS.

THE Independent Order of Odd-Fellows were the first of the secret societies to organize a lodge in this city, and so are justly entitled to head the list of Winona's fraternal associations. Early in the history of the city — during the winter of 1855-6 — the members of the order who had sought a location in the then village began looking one another up and comparing notes, when it was ascertained that there were five members of the I.O.O.F. in the embryo city. The names of the five, since become historic in the annals of the order here, were James M. Cole (a past grand), and scarlet-

degree brothers Wm. H. Keith, Daniel L. Miller, John Curtis and John Owens. During the January session of the grand lodge of the order in the State of Minnesota, in the year 1856, formal application was made by the above-mentioned fraters of the order for a lodge charter, which application was favorably considered, and on May 6 following

PRAIRIE LODGE, NO. 7, I.O.O.F. OF WINONA,

was duly instituted by Grand Master L. A. Babcock. The charter members of the new lodge were the petitioners above mentioned, who were elected and installed into the various offices as follows: Jas. W. Cole, noble grand; Wm. H. Keith, vice-grand; John Owens, secretary; John Curtis, treasurer; D. L. Miller, conductor. The place of meeting for the new lodge was in the upper story of the Downer building, at the lower end of the levee, which had been fitted up for lodge purposes; and here, eight days later, May 14, 1856, the first initiations into the order occurred, the candidates being Thomas Simpson, W. G. Dye and Henry Wickersham. The lodge increased rapidly in numbers, and the following year, their hall proving inadequate to their enlarging demands, they arranged to occupy the third story of the newly-erected building on the levee, afterward known as the Riverside hotel, where they remained until 1859, when they leased the third story of the brick building which Thomas Simpson had just erected on Second street, between Center and Main streets, where Mitchell's block now stands. This location was chosen as affording more room and privacy, and as the lodge was then in a very flourishing condition it was fitted up most comfortably, the emblems and jewels of the lodge-room costing nearly \$150. Here the lodge worked and grew and prospered until the great fire of 1862 destroyed their beautiful hall, with its regalia, emblems, jewels, and most of its records — the latter an irreparable loss. During this period Prairie Lodge elected five unaffiliated members from Rochester, instructed them, entertained them, granted them withdrawal cards, and loaned them the regalia and fixtures necessary for the institution of a lodge of the order in Rochester, and donated them the entire work and service above rendered. From this it is evident Prairie Lodge, No. 7, is justly entitled to the honors of putative fatherhood in the case of Rochester Lodge, No. 13, I.O.O.F. of Rochester, Minnesota.

April 15, 1863, Prairie Lodge, No. 7, took possession of their new hall, which had been fitted up for them in the Wickersham

building (now Kendall's wholesale drug house), and which they occupied for five years. April 12, 1868, they removed to Simpson's block, corner of Second and Center streets, in the third story of which they had fitted up a commodious lodge-room, with ample reception and preparation rooms. Here they continued work, growing in numbers and influence, until the block was gutted by fire, January 13, 1877. In this fire the order were a second time rendered houseless and homeless, to which disaster was added the loss of all their records, so that most pertaining to the early history of the order has been gathered from personal recollections of members, and more specifically from the very interesting paper on the "Early history of Odd-fellowship in Winona," prepared for and presented to the order by W. G. Dye in 1874, and which has survived the general ruin of the records of the fraternity. After a temporary sojourn in Mill's Hall, during which time Simpson's block was being rebuilt, Prairie Lodge returned to their old quarters, which had been elegantly fitted for their reception, on April 15, 1877, where visiting fraters will find them sumptuously lodged in an elegant hall, fully equipped for work and hospitable entertainment.

Nearly ten years prior to this date, however, in 1868, the German-speaking members of Prairie Lodge had so increased that it was deemed wise to organize a second Odd-Fellows' lodge, working in the German language, and this was effected in due form October 6, 1868, the new lodge being known as Humboldt Lodge, No. 24, I.O.O.F. of Minnesota. For work and statistics of Humboldt Lodge, see article following. From the narrative of Past N.G. Dye, above referred to, it seems that up to date of April 27, 1874, 257 members had been connected with Prairie Lodge, and that there were 73 members in reorganized standing at that time. The destruction of the records three years later, 1877, renders it impossible to state the actual figures as we would were those records extant. But availing ourselves of all possible sources of information, we present the following statistics as substantially accurate. Whole number of members borne on rolls of Prairie Lodge 335; present number of members in Prairie Lodge 97; adding to this the whole number in Humboldt Lodge 174, and deducting the number demitted from Prairie to Humboldt, we have the total members of the fraternity from the date of the institution of the order in 1856 to the present time 485, and adding the present number in Humboldt Lodge to those already given for Prairie, No. 7, we find 205



the actual membership of the order in this city. The election of officers occurring semi-annually, it has not been deemed best to cumber the account with anything beyond the official register for the present term, which is : N.G., G. W. Greslin ; V.G., F. B. Newell ; Sec., A. Beyerstedt ; Treas., H. J. Willis ; Warden, John Berthe ; L.S.N.G., W. W. Miller ; R.S.V.G., E. Anderson ; L.S.V.G., E. Helder ; Cond., G. A. Terrill ; I.G., D. Trepus ; O.G., J. Duberry ; R.S.S., Wm. Berthe ; L.S.S., Thos. Laycock ; Trustees, W. G. Dye, D. Morrell, G. A. Terrill.

#### HUMBOLDT LODGE, NO. 24.

Humboldt Lodge, No. 24, I.O.O.F. (as indicated in the previous sketch of the history of the order in Winona county), was organized by members of Prairie Lodge, No. 7, October 5, 1868. The charter members, ten in number, were : H. C. Fuhrman, Wm. Wedel, J. Harlan, B. Neuman, J. Budwig, C. Houseman, H. Einfeldt, J. Einfeldt, E. Pelzer and W. Wosohoskai. These are all living, five of them still residents of Winona and prominent members of Humboldt Lodge. This lodge was organized for the purpose of working in the German language, and has had a most prosperous existence. The total number of members borne on the rolls since organization has been 174, and the present membership is 108. They share with Prairie Lodge the beautiful hall in Simpson's block and enjoy their share of the honors ; D.D.G.M. H. C. Fuhrman being general messenger of the Sovereign Grand Lodge of the Order in the United States, the first office of the kind ever held by any member of the fraternity in Minnesota.

H. C. Fuhrman, district deputy grand master and general messenger of the Sovereign Grand Lodge of the United States, is a native of Germany ; came from there to Wisconsin in 1850, and to Winona in 1867 ; was engaged in business here until 1874, since which time he has been employed in the railway postal service of the United States. He is also a Master Mason, a member of Winona Lodge, No. 18. Mr. Fuhrman is married, has one child attending school in the city, and a son, A. W. Fuhrman, chief engineer of the city fire department.

#### WINONA ENCAMPMENT, NO. 10, I.O.O.F.

The two lodges of the order in this city having grown strong and vigorous, it was determined about ten years since to institute an encampment here. Accordingly, November 29, 1872, Alexander

Wilson, of St. Paul, Minnesota, grand patriarch of the state, assisted by several G. P's from Red Wing, Minnesota, and H. P's W. G. Dye, H. C. Fuhrman, J. M. Cole, B. Kirst, D. A. Briggs, W. Wedel and D. A. Bannister, proceeded to institute an encampment of the I.O.O.F., to be known as Winona Encampment, No. 10, of Winona, Minnesota, which was duly done, and the three principal officers installed were: G. W. Dye, C.P., H. C. Fuhrman, H.P., and J. M. Cole, S.W.

The destruction of the records leaves no accurate data for determining the number of deaths in the encampment, nor the whole number of members admitted; the present membership is 54. The three chief chairs of the encampment have been officered as follows since its institution.

DATE.	CHIEF PATRIARCH.	HIGH PRIEST.	SENIOR WARDEN.
1873.	B. P. Stoker.....	W. Wedel.....	D.A. Bannister.
Jan. 1874.	D. A. Bannister.....	W. G. Dye.....	M. L. Mertes.
July 1874.	M. L. Mertes.....	B. Kirst.....	J. D. Coe.
Jan. 1875.	J. D. Coe.....	B. Neuman.....	C. C. Astrup.
July 1875.	J. H. Hubbard.....	H. G. C. Schmidt.....	G. E. Haskins.
Jan. 1876.	G. E. Haskins.....	C. B. Shepard.....	H. G. C. Schmidt.
July 1876.	C. B. Shepard.....	W. G. Dye.....	L. Bates.
Jan. 1877.	C. B. Shepard.....	W. G. Dye.....	L. Bates.
July 1877.	L. Bates.....	H. J. Stelter.....	H. Pfankuch.
Jan. 1878.	H. J. Stelter.....	W. G. Dye.....	C. B. Shepard.
July 1878.	C. C. Astrup.....	W. G. Dye.....	W. A. Thompson.
Jan. 1879.	W. A. Thompson.....	W. G. Dye.....	J. D. Coe.
July 1879.	H. G. C. Schmidt.....	W. G. Dye.....	C. B. Shepard.
Jan. 1880.	W. Wedel.....	Aug. Munck.....	H. Pfankuch.
July 1880.	W. Wedel.....	Aug. Munck.....	H. Pfankuch.
1881.	H. Pfankuch.....	J. T. Gerlicher.....	A. Beyerstadt.
1882.	J. Einfeldt.....	A. Beyerstadt.....	N. Schleuter.
1883.	A. Byerstedt.....	N. Schleuter.....	H. Hartmann.

The present officers are: C.P., A. Beyerstedt; H.P., N. Schleuter; S.W., H. Hartmann; J.W., W. Lucht; Treas., H. Einfeldt; Scribe, E. Hargesheimer; Guide, F. Rakow; O.S., S. Stark; I.S., Aug. Schladsenske; 1st W., N. Munck; 2d W., Jos. Leicht; 3d W., John Lohse; 4th W., Phil. Feiten.

#### A. F. AND A. M.

All written record of the planting of the masonic order in Winona, and its history during the first five years of its organization, was destroyed in the great fire of 1862, in which so much that was pertinent to the earlier annals of this city and its institutions was irretrievably lost. At that time, it will be remembered, the whole people were turning their anxious faces southward and attempting to forecast the future of the Republic in the issues of civil

war. That closed, other matters of business, reconstruction policies, national and personal finance, engrossed the thoughts of people, and so it transpired that for various causes no attempt was made to rehabilitate the masonic records of the city for more than a full decade after their destruction. In 1874, at the close of Worshipful Master I. B. Cumming's tenth term of service as presiding officer of Winona Lodge, No. 18, A. F. and A. M., he presented the matter in his annual address. This was largely a résumé of the work of the lodge during the period he had been stationed in the east, to which was appended a most interesting narrative of the order here in so far as he had been able to collect the items of its earlier history. This paper lies now before us, and to it and verbal statements from Master Cummings and others we acknowledge our indebtedness for much that is valuable concerning the early days of Masonry in Winona. For matters of later date, the records of the lodge and orders and the courtesy of the secretaries, Bros. J. K. Ferguson and C. H. Porter, have been freely drawn upon.

#### WINONA LODGE, NO. 18.

In November, 1855, H. D. Huff as W.M. and John Iams and G. R. Tucker as S.W. and J.W. respectively, applied for and were granted a dispensation to open a masonic lodge in Winona. This dispensation issued from the office of the then W.G.M. of this jurisdiction, Moses Sherburne, and the lodge prospective was numbered 8, there being at that time but seven lodges of the order in this masonic jurisdiction. It appears that this dispensation must have expired by limitation or have been recalled, as another dispensation was subsequently granted. There is no record or recollection on the part of any of the old citizens of any masonic work under this dispensation of Grand Master Sherburne, and according to the general masonic belief matters remained in statu quo. The following May, 1856, upon petition of certain Masonic brethren in this city, a dispensation to open a masonic lodge here was granted by the then worshipful grand master, A. T. C. Pierson. In the following January, 1857, the grand lodge approved the dispensation and granted a charter, and on March 3 of that same year P. P. Hubbell (so well known to the masonic fraternity of Minnesota as Father Hubbell), deputed to act for the grand master, organized Winona Lodge, No. 18, A. F. and A. M., duly consecrated the same and installed the following officers: W.M., G. R. Tucker; S.W., J. S. Camp-

bell; J.W., H. D. Morse; Treas., G. W. Horton; Sec., C. E. Voight. The records of this transaction being lost, it is impossible to say just what names appeared upon the original petition or what officers in addition to those already named were installed; but from the register of members, which was not burned, being in the lodge-room at the time, as will afterward appear, it is certain that the roll of charter members included, besides those already given, the names of Bros. H. D. Huff, John Iams, C. F. Buck and Geo. W. Curtis. The original lodge-room was in Laird's building, at the lower end of the levee, and here they remained, according to the best information attainable, until the formal institution of the lodge in the spring of 1857, at about which time they removed to the L. D. Smith building on the levee, afterward known as Riverside Hotel, and occupying very nearly the present site of Krundick's elevator. It was during their occupancy of these quarters that the disastrous fire of 1862 occurred, in which as before said, all their records and papers, save members' register, were burned. These records and papers were not in the lodge-room at the time the fire occurred, but in the private office of the lodge secretary, John Keyes, whose office, with all it contained, was swept away in common with scores of others. The Riverside Hotel escaped destruction, and the lodge was not called upon to bear the loss of its furniture and regalia, as well as its records—a misfortune which the I.O.O.F. fraternity did not escape. Early in the following year, 1863, arrangements were made for occupying the third story of what is now known as No. 4, Simpson's block, a lease executed for a term of years and possession taken June 3 of that year. These were commodious quarters as compared with those formerly occupied, or with any others in southern Minnesota at that date, and the order were not unreasonably elated at the comfort and convenience of their new hall. Here the formal dedication of the lodge-room occurred June 27, 1863, conducted in due and ancient form by W.G.M. Pierson, who delivered a most interesting oration (public) on that occasion. Here the lodge continued its beneficent work under enlarging opportunities for usefulness, and had so increased its membership that at the close of the eighth year of its existence its grand lodge dues aggregated \$110.

In ten years the craft had outgrown their accommodations in Simpson's block and new quarters became a necessity. Postoffice block, corner of Third and Center streets, then newly erected, was considered the most likely to afford the desired room and privacy.



Negotiations were entered into which resulted in the lease of the third story of the block for a term of ten years. Here on June 27, 1872 (the tenth anniversary of the dedication of the lodge-room in Simpson's block), the new lodge-room was formally set apart in due masonic form for the work of the craft. M.W.G.M. Griswold conducted the ceremonies, a pleasing feature of the occasion being the grand march of the subordinate lodges and the most worshipful grand master, escorted by a detachment of the Knights Templar. The lease of the hall now occupied nearly a decade, expires the ensuing June, but a new lease for ten years has just been executed (April, 1883), and as the fraternity may now be considered as settled until June, 1893, and particularly as they have arranged to expend \$1,000 in improving their lodge-room, a description of the finest masonic quarters in the northwest will not be out of place in this connection. Postoffice block is a full three-story and basement brick, with stone foundations and trimmings, fronting on the two principal streets of the city, with entrances on both. The building is 52×90 feet, and the entire third story is devoted to masonic use. The lodge-room proper is 28×52 feet with ceilings fifteen feet high, sloping to fourteen feet at the lower end of the hall. Adjoining this, and connected with it by folding doors, is the armory of the commandery, used also as occasion requires for a banquet hall. This room is 20×62, elegantly furnished with cabinets for the regalia and arms of the knights, and on the walls of which are displayed the richly emblazoned banners of the commandery. The reception-room is quite commodious, 20×24 feet, as are also the kitchen, examination, preparation and tyler's rooms. The kitchen is well furnished with all the necessary paraphernalia, including table furniture, for maintaining the record of the craft for generous cheer and good fellowship. These rooms are now being renovated, and walls and ceilings finished in the latest style of decorative art. This accomplished, and the new carpets laid and minor arrangements completed, the masonic bodies of Winona will be as sumptuously lodged, and as favorably circumstanced for effective work, as they could possibly desire. To avert the calamity so sensibly felt in the destruction of their records by fire twenty-one years ago, they have furnished their lodge-room with a magnificent fire-proof safe, amply sufficient for the records of blue lodge, chapter and commandery, each body having its separate compartment.

As matter of record, we append the names of those who have

successively been stationed in the east, west and south since the organization of the lodge.

DATE.	WORSHIPFUL MASTER.	SENIOR WARDEN.	JUNIOR WARDEN.
1857.	G. R. Tucker	J. S. Campbell	H. D. Morse.
1858.	G. R. Tucker	J. S. Campbell	H. D. Morse.
1859.	J. S. Campbell	H. D. Morse	James White.
1860.	P. P. Hubbell	Jas. White	D. C. Patterson.
1861.	G. R. Tucker	H. D. Morse	Sam Fox.
1862.	G. R. Tucker	H. D. Morse	Sam Fox.
1863.	J. S. Campbell	Sam Fox	Maurice Nolan.
1864.	G. R. Tucker	Chas. Benson	D. A. Coe.
1865.	G. R. Tucker	I. B. Cummings	W. G. Dye.
1866.	I. B. Cummings	W. G. Dye	John Sherman.
1867.	I. B. Cummings	F. A. Searey	John Ball.
1868.	I. B. Cummings	F. A. Searey	W. S. Drew.
1869.	I. B. Cummings	J. C. Slater	R. B. Basford.
1870.	I. B. Cummings	J. C. Slater	R. B. Basford.
1871.	I. B. Cummings	J. C. Slater	Columbia Drew.
1872.	I. B. Cummings	W. H. Stevens	O. B. Gould.
1873.	I. B. Cummings	O. B. Gould	N. F. Frary
1874.	I. B. Cummings	O. B. Gould	N. F. Frary.
1875.	I. B. Cummings	N. Staughton	W. H. Bennett.
1876.	I. B. Cummings	W. H. Bennett	J. C. Palmer.
1877.	W. H. Bennett	N. F. Frary	R. M. Whitney.
1878.	I. B. Cummings	W. H. Bennett	R. M. Whitney.
1879.	I. B. Cummings	W. H. Bennett	Chas. H. Goodwin.
1880.	W. H. Bennett	Chas. H. Goodwin	Thos. A. Richardson.
1881.	Thos. A. Richardson	Chas. H. Goodwin	C. H. Lockwood.
1882.	Thos. A. Richardson	E. D. Hulbert	W. C. Brown.
1883.	E. D. Hulbert	J. C. Hillmer	C. C. Clement.

The other officers for the current year are : Treas., C. H. Porter ; Sec., J. K. Ferguson ; Chap., Rev. E. J. Purdy ; S.D., Thos. McDavitt ; J.D., E. G. Nerrus ; S.S., M. E. Frumer ; J.S., J. F. Gerlichen ; Marshal, O. B. Gould ; Organist, F. A. A. Robertson ; Tyler, L. K. Eastey. The trustees are O. B. Gould, Sam Fox, and C. H. Berry. The lodge has had but few changes in the office of secretary. John Keyes, of whose election there is no record, he having held that office prior to 1862, closed his labors as recording officer of the lodge in 1869. To him succeeded W. G. Dye, who kept the records until the close of 1878. R. M. Whitney was then elected and served one year, when the present secretary, J. K. Ferguson, was elected and installed.

It is but fitting that some mention should here be made of "Father Hubbell," who consecrated the lodge at its institution and installed its officers, as previously mentioned. "Father Hubbell" is a mason of sixty-three years' standing. His application was made as early as the law allows, on his twenty-first birthday, which occurred

February 1, 1820. His application came before Painted Post Lodge, No. 203 (old number), then holding its sessions in an upper room in the house of the applicant's father at Corning, New York. Father Hubbell was initiated in March of that same year, 1820, passed in April and raised in May. He is doubtless the oldest Mason in the state. Winona Lodge is just closing the twenty-seventh year of its history. During that time four hundred and eleven members have been borne upon its rolls; of these thirty-three have gone out from the earthly lodge-room to appear before the Supreme Master of the Universe and submit the designs upon their tresselboards. The present number of members is 158.

#### WINONA CHAPTER NO. 5, R. A. M.

No sooner had the members of the blue lodge become firmly established in their then commodious quarters in Simpson's block than they turned their attention to the formation of a chapter, rightly concluding that in a city of Winona's growing importance the craft should maintain labor in the higher as well as lower degrees of the order. Accordingly, on August 11, 1863, a petition was presented to A. E. Ames, G. H. P., of this masonic jurisdiction, asking for dispensation to open a chapter here, to be known as Winona Chapter, No. 5, R. A. M. The petitioners were: Warren Powers, H. P.; Philo P. Hubbell, King; H. D. Morse, Scribe; and companions James Gwynn, James B. Stockton, David Barker, Isaac Benham, A. P. Hoit and R. G. Stevens. September 18, 1863, these companions assembled under direction of A. T. C. Pierson, acting as proxy for the G. H. P., who opened the chapter in due form. At the annual convocation of the grand chapter, held the following month, a record of the proceedings in the case of the formation of Winona Chapter was presented, the work approved and a charter granted, bearing date October 29, 1863. No election of officers was held until the close of the following year, the posts being filled as indicated by the petition and the officers therein designated installed. The annual election for chapter officers is held about the close of the civil year, late in December, and the roster of officers hereto appended is given for the year of their service, and not of their election. As in the case of Winona Lodge, No. 18, only the three ranking officers are given to date, but the full list for the current year appears.

YEAR.	HIGH PRIEST.	KING.	SCRIBE.
1865.	Charles Benson.....	James M. Cole.....	F. D. Hayden.
1866.	James M. Cole.....	G. R. Tucker.....	Orrin Wheeler.
1867.	James M. Cole.....	Orrin Wheeler.....	W. G. Dye.
1868.	W. G. Dye.....	James M. Cole.....	F. S. Buck.
1869.	W. G. Dye.....	W. K. F. Vila.....	John Ball.
1870.	James M. Cole.....	I. B. Cummings.....	F. Staples.
1871.	W. K. F. Vila.....	F. Staples.....	I. B. Cummings.
1872.	W. K. F. Vila.....	F. Staples.....	J. C. Schoonmaker.
1873.	W. G. Dye.....	I. B. Cummings.....	James M. Cole.
1874.	W. K. F. Vila.....	R. B. Basford.....	I. B. Cummings.
1875.	R. B. Basford.....	W. K. F. Vila.....	N. B. Ufford.
1876.	R. B. Basford.....	W. K. F. Vila.....	N. B. Ufford.
1877.	N. B. Ufford.....	W. K. F. Vila.....	R. B. Basford.
1878.	N. B. Ufford.....	W. K. F. Vila.....	R. B. Basford.
1879.	N. B. Ufford.....	J. L. Brink.....	N. Staughton.
1880.	N. B. Ufford.....	J. L. Brink.....	N. Staughton.
1881.	I. B. Cummings.....	J. L. Brink.....	Charles Gilbert.
1882.	I. B. Cummings.....	G. L. Gates.....	N. Staughton.

The several offices of the chapter for 1883 are filled as follows :  
H. P., Geo. L. Gates ; K., Thomas A. Richardson ; \* Scribe, J. L. Brink ; C. of H., W. H. Bennett ; R. A. C., H. C. Shepard ; P. S., E. D. Hulbert ; Treas., C. H. Porter ; Sec., J. K. Ferguson ; G. M. 3d V., A. O. Slade ; G. M. 2d V., M. E. Trumer ; G. M. 1st V., V. A. Brink ; Sentinel, L. K. Eastey.

The total number of companions that have held membership in Winona Chapter during the almost twenty years of its existence has been 185 ; of these 14 have entered within the veil to return to the earthly host no more, and there now remain 80 regularly borne upon the record.

#### CŒUR DE LION COMMANDERY, NO. 3, K. T.

The formal establishment of the chapter consummated, and its permanency assured, the organization of a commandery soon followed as a matter of necessity — there being at this time no asylum of the order in southern Minnesota. May 13, 1864, a petition to open and hold a commandery in Winona was presented M. E. Sir Knight B. B. French, at that time grand master of K. T. of U. S. The following month the dispensation issued, and was committed to M. E. Sir Knight A. T. C. Pierson, G. C. G. of K. T. of U. S. and E. C. of Damascus Commandery of St. Paul, who, as deputy for the grand master, proceeded to Winona bearing the dispensation. This dis-

\* Companion Thomas Richardson's throne, as king of Winona Chapter, was vacated by the summons of the pale horseman, February 14, 1883. At the time of his death Mr. Richardson was a member of the state legislature from this representative district ; a bright Mason, and recognized everywhere as one of the best workmen of the craft for his years which only numbered 27 when he was called to the grand convocation above.



pensation, of date June 18, 1864, empowered Sir Knights Warren Powers, Rob. Urquhart, G. D. Bristol, M. Wheeler Sargent, H. L. Freeman, C. D. Sherwood, E. F. Dodge, Charles Benson and James M. Cole to open and hold a commandery of K. T. and Council of the Order of Knights of the Red Cross, to be designated by the name Cœur de Lion Commandery, of Winona, Minnesota, which was done as commanded, with Sir Knight Warren Powers, E. C., Rob Urquhart, G., and G. V. Bristol, C. G. There being at this time no grand commandery of Minnesota, the Winona Knights continued to work under dispensation from the grand master of K. T. of U. S. until the meeting of the grand encampment at Columbus, Ohio, September 7, 1865. The by-laws, records and work of Cœur de Lion Commandery were approved, after examination by the grand encampment, and a charter issued, bearing date September 13, 1865, fully habilitating Cœur de Lion Commandery with authority to elect officers, confer orders, and do all other things pertaining to the rights and powers of a loyal commandery of K. T. On October 19, 1865, a dispensation issued from H. L. Palmer, G. M. of K. T. of U. S., authorizing the organization of a grand commandery for the State of Minnesota. This work was prosecuted by the grand master in person, and on October 23, 1865, the Grand Commandery of Minnesota was created, Cœur de Lion Commandery transferred from the jurisdiction of the grand encampment to that of the Grand Commandery of Minnesota, and enrolled as Cœur de Lion Commandery, No. 3, of Winona. Sir Knights Powers, Urquhart and Bristol held the offices to which they had been elected at the organization of the commandery until the annual reports were returned to the grand master of K. T. of U. S., when another election was held, resulting in the choice of Sir Knight Rob. Urquhart, E. C., J. M. Cole, G., and D. A. Coe, C. G., who held office until the commandery obtained its charter, when a new election was ordered. This statement explains the apparent paradox of two elections having been held in 1865, as appears from the accompanying table, which shows the successive results of the annual elections of the commandery, so far as the three highest offices are concerned:

DATE.	EMINENT COMMANDER.	GENERALISSIMO.	CAPTAIN GENERAL.
1865	Warren Powers .....	R. Urquhart .....	D. A. Coe.
	R. Urquhart .....	J. M. Cole .....	D. A. Coe.
1866.	R. Urquhart .....	J. M. Cole .....	D. A. Coe.
1867.	James M. Cole .....	A. W. Webster .....	B. H. Langley.
1868.	A. W. Webster .....	B. H. Langley .....	W. G. Dye.

YEAR.	EMINENT COMMANDER.	GENERALISSIMO.	CAPTAIN GENERAL.
1869.	A. W. Webster.....	B. H. Langley .....	W. G. Dye.
1870.	B. H. Langley.....	W. G. Dye.....	W. K. F. Vila.
1871.	B. H. Langley.....	W. G. Dye.....	W. K. F. Vila.
1872.	B. H. Langley.....	W. G. Dye.....	W. K. F. Vila.
1873.	B. H. Langley.....	W. K. Vila .....	R. L. McCormick.
1874.	B. H. Langley.....	W. K. Vila .....	R. L. McCormick.
1875.	B. H. Langley.....	W. K. Vila .....	Isaac Slade.
1876.	W. K. F. Vila.....	Isaac Slade.....	N. Staughton.
1877.	W. K. F. Vila.....	Isaac Slade.....	N. Staughton.
1878.	B. H. Langley.....	Isaac Slade.....	N. Staughton.
1879.	Isaac Slade .....	N. Staughton .....	R. B. Basford.
1880.	N. Staughton.....	W. K. F. Vila.....	Isaac Slade.
1881.	Isaac Slade.....	W. K. F. Vila.....	A. W. Scott.
1882.	A. W. Scott.....	Isaac Slade.....	N. Staughton.
1883.	A. W. Scott.....	Isaac Slade.....	N. Staughton.

The other officers for the current year are I. B. Cummings, Prelate; S. Fox, S. W.; R. B. Basford, Treas.; W. H. Bennett, S. B.; F. A. A. Robertson, W.; A. O. Slade, 2d G.; W. K. Vila, J. W.; C. H. Porter, Rec.; E. F. Mues, Sw. B.; G. L. Gates, 3d G.; E. S. Nevius, 1st G.; L. K. Eastey, Sentinel.

The whole number of knights that have been enrolled in Cœur de Lion Commandery since its organization in 1864 has been 144. Of these, 61 still remain upon the rolls, 40 of whom are residents of this city. Of the 83 whose names no longer appear, eight have died as members of this commandery, leaving the courts of the earthly temple to enter through the more glorious gates of the upper, the sanctuary not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. The remaining 75 have scattered far and wide; no doubt many of them have joined the bannered host of the grand encampment above.

There are many items of interest that might be recorded concerning Cœur de Lion Commandery and the sir knights who compose it. We mention only a few.

March 17, 1865, Sir Knight P. P. Hubbell (Father Hubbell) was made an honorary member of the commandery, a distinction conferred upon no other during the nineteen years of its existence.

With the granting of the charter the name of the commandery was changed from the French form of the name, which it bore at its institution, to the English form of the words, "Cœur de Lion," as it now is. At the triennial conclave, held in Chicago in 1880, Cœur de Lion received general commendation for its arms and banner—its beautifully-emblazoned standard eliciting universal praise as one of the most beautiful ensigns in that immense host. This commandery has furnished three grand commanders for the state: Sir Knights

James M. Cole, B. F. Langley and R. L. McCormick, who are ex-officio members of the grand encampment. Of these James M. Cole was grand master of the grand commandery in 1868-9, and G. War-der of the grand encampment in from 1868 to 1871. B. F. Langley was eminent commander of Cœur de Lion Commandery for seven terms, grand commander of the state in 1874-5 and grand senior warden of the grand encampment from 1874 to 1877. R. L. McCormick was grand conductor on the state commandery in 1881. Father Hubbell was appointed to the grand prelacy of the Grand Commandery of Minnesota in 1874, the office being vacated by the death of V. P. Sir Knight A. E. Ames, and has held the office by successive election ever since — the action of the commandery being so unanimous in every instance as to approve the judgment of many that he will hold the office he so honors until called up higher by the Supreme Commander of the Universe. I. B. Cummings, the present prelate of Cœur de Lion, has held that office for thirteen consecutive terms, and magnifies it.

#### DRUIDS.

The Druids are divided into three separate organizations, namely : Winona Grove (German), Scandinavian Lund and Oak Grove (English). We will first take up the Winona Grove, No. 6. This branch was organized in September, 1871, the charter being granted the same year. The officers were : Christian Heintz, president ; Conrad Sherer, vice-president ; Henry Stelter, secretary ; Fred. Martin, treasurer. There were at first but twelve members. The object of the society, like other organizations of its kind, is benevolent. There are three degrees. Members having acquired all the degrees are called Druids, and when unable to work receive from the society \$5 per week. The second degree is given after the member has been in the association six months ; these members receive \$3 when unable to work. The first degree is received upon initiation. Such members, during sickness, receive but \$2 per week. On the death of a member the widow receives from the entire association throughout the state a sum of money varying as to the entire membership at the time. An assessment is made of \$1 upon every member in the state ; this is given to the widow ; but if the sum exceeds \$2,000, the excess over this falls to the widows' fund in the treasury. The society receives into its ranks only men of respectability and temperance. The members are liable at any time to be suspended

or expelled for misconduct. The Winona Grove have in their treasury at present \$750 in cash, besides property of various kinds valued at \$1,420. The officers are: Claus Nottelmann, president; Henry Kluver, vice-president; Hugo Enderlein, secretary; B. Howe, assistant secretary; Fred. Meyer, treasurer.

*Scandinavian Grove, No. 12*, was organized May 23, 1876; the charter was granted at the same date. The first officers were: N.A., O. M. Olsen; V.A., A. G. Steelhammer; secretary, L. Olsen; treasurer, Christ Christofferson; I.G., O. Hanson; conductor, L. O. Engelstad; O.G., M. C. Wahler; R.H.B.N.A., John Ereckner; L.H.B.N.A., M. P. Foss; R.H.B.V.A., O. Thompson; L.H.B.V.A., L. C. Olson. At first there were but eighteen charter members; the number has now increased to thirty-four. The names of the present officers are: D.D., L. Olson; N.A., H. U. Nelson; V.A., Otto Outzeer; secretary, Edward Anderson; conductor, H. L. Berg; O.G., G. P. Gillsbery; R.H.B.N.A., Issak Nilse; L.H.B.N.A., H. P. Hanson; I.G., B. Broderson; R.H.B.V.A., A. C. Larson; L.H.B.V.A., G. Christeanser.

*Oak Grove* was organized and had the charter granted August 10, 1877, with a membership of forty-four. The officers were: N. A., R. B. Basford; V.A., G. K. Adams; secretary, H. W. Posz; treasurer, H. R. Wedel. At present there are fifty-three members. The officers are: N.A., G. K. Adams; V.A., J. Seicht; secretary, H. W. Posz; treasurer, W. C. Pletke.

#### A. O. U. W.

*Winona Lodge, No. 20*, was organized August 3, 1877, with thirteen charter members, and in the less than six years of its existence has grown to a flourishing beneficiary with 110 members and half a score of petitions for membership to be acted upon. Among the objects proposed to be accomplished by this organization, one of the leading features is the payment of \$2,000 at the death of a member to his family. This is effected through the grand lodge organization of the state. The financial standing of the lodge is most excellent, and under the management of its efficient officers is rapidly increasing in influence and members. The present board of officers is as follows: P.M.W., J. J. Hoffman; M.W., W. C. Pierce; F., P. W. Leach; O., George Paris; recorder, W. O. Kennedy; rec., J. M. Sheardown; fin., J. C. Parchyues; guide, Wm. Ehler; I.W. Wm. Ehmke; O.W., Wm. Petersen. The annual dues as estab-



lished by the lodge are \$4, payable in quarterly installments. The cost of carrying \$2,000 beneficiary being about \$18 to \$20 per annum.

#### KNIGHTS OF HONOR

were organized on May 30, 1877. The charter was granted the same date. At first there were but seventeen charter members. The officers were: A. H. Snow, dictator; W. H. Stevens, past dictator; N. Buck, vice-dictator; C. B. Maxwell, assistant dictator; S. Fleishman, financial reporter; N. Bufford, treasurer; L. D. Frost, guardian; W. R. Williams, chaplain; G. H. Ellsburry, reporter; J. F. Martin, sentinel. At present there are forty-two members, and the order is in a flourishing condition. The officers are: J. B. McGaughey, past dictator; S. Fleishman, dictator; Thomas Hill, vice dictator; W. C. Richardson, assistant dictator; J. Gertter, treasurer; Jacob Smith, guardian; W. C. Brown, financial reporter; L. D. Frost, reporter; H. Fraelich, guardian; Wm. Werner, sentinel; A. Walsworth, chaplain.

#### TEMPLE OF HONOR

was organized and chartered June 11, 1875, with a membership of nineteen. The charter members were: L. O. Stevens, W.C.T.; J. L. Furgurson, W.V.T.; C. A. Bierce, W.R.; R. M. Martin, W.A.R.; F. S. Quinsey, W.F.R.; John Bally, A.F.R.; R. M. McQuestion, W.C.; H. H. Wassen, W.H.; J. Manning, W.D.; Wm. H. St. John, W.S.; Louis Larson, W.G.; W. W. Wood, D.G.W.C.T. The present officers are: A. Thomas, W.C.T.; vacant, W.V.T.; L. O. Stevens, W.R.; B. Haverson, W.F.R.; Mr. Martin, W.H.; Mr. Niles, W.D.H.; Mr. Blood, W.G.; Ned Gallion, W.S.; C. Johnston, P.W.C.T.; L. O. Stevens, W.C.; G. A. Terril, D.G.W.C.T. The number of members at present is thirty.

#### GOOD TEMPLARS.

This society was organized and the charter granted November 15, 1882. The number of members in the beginning was thirty-nine; at present the number has increased to fifty. Although in existence but a short space of time the society is in a prosperous condition. the officers are: L. R. Stevens, W.C.T.; A. Thomas, P.W.C.T.; Mrs. E. Halbert, W.V.T.; Rev. F. W. Flint, W.Chap.; L. D. Schoonmaker, W.Sec.; Miss Lizzie Gage, W.A.Sec.; Fred. Wait, W.F.Sec.; C. A. Bierce, W.T.; G. E. Tount, W.M.; Miss Ella

Tount, W.D.M.; Miss Libbie Maybury, W.T.G.; E. P. Wait, W. Sent.; C. G. Maybury, L.D.; Miss Wait, R.H.S.; Miss Sanford, L.H.S.; C. A. Bierce, E. P. Wait, A. W. Gage, trustees.

#### WOMANS' TEMPERANCE UNION.

This society was organized in 1875. The officers were: Mrs. Hollowell, president; Mrs. Bierce, secretary; Mrs. M. K. Drew, treasurer. The organization at first numbered but twelve members; at present the membership has increased to sixty. The officers at present are: Mrs. J. Swart, president; Mrs. Thompson, vice-president; Mrs. M. K. Drew, secretary; Mrs. Cosgrove, treasurer. The society is said to be in a prosperous condition.

#### THE WINONA EQUITABLE AID UNION.

This society was organized and charter granted June 22, 1880, with a membership of thirty-one. The following were the first officers elected: Prof. W. F. Phelps, president; W. W. Slocumb, vice-president; D. E. Vance, chancellor; John J. Myres, advocate; C. G. Maybury, treasurer; J. N. Maybury, secretary.

The officers are elected semi-annually. There has been in this society some withdrawals and suspensions, but it is at writing in a prosperous condition. There is a membership at present of 43. The officers for 1882 are: Thomas H. Shaw, president; John C. Brown, vice-president; C. G. Maybury, treasurer; L. A. West, secretary.

The operations of this union are, by virtue of a charter granted in conformity to the laws and regulations of the founders of the order, called the Supreme Equitable Aid Union. This was incorporated March 22, 1879, in compliance with a statute of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, under date of April 29, 1874. The incorporators were D. A. Dewey, R. N. Seaver, W. B. Howard, H. S. Ayer and W. H. Muzzy, all citizens of Columbus, Pennsylvania.

Objects of the order: 1. To unite fraternally all white persons, socially and physically acceptable, between sixteen and sixty-five years of age. 2. To give equal benefits to both sexes, striving to improve the social and moral bearing of each. 3. To give woman all the rights that social equality can bestow, and to grant her all the benefits secured to man by secret organizations. 4. To give all moral and material aid in its power to members of the order by

assisting each other in business, in obtaining employment and in sickness. 5. To establish a benefit fund, from which a sum not to exceed \$3,000 shall be paid at the death of a member to whom the member shall designate, or to his heirs. 6. To see that in sickness fraternal care is at all times given, and to advance the social friendship of the member in every manner possible. Besides the principal union, over 400 subordinate orders are in existence, with an entire membership of 15,000. In the last three and a half years 105 deaths have occurred, and \$196,331.45 has been paid out in insurance.

#### GERMAN PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY

was incorporated April 11, 1866, with a membership of fifteen. The first officers were: G. Lautenoshlaeger, president; F. Kroeger, vice-president; N. F. Hibbert, secretary; R. Radke, treasurer; C. F. Schroth, Wm. Wedel, E. A. Gerdtsen, trustees. The charter members were as follows: G. Lautenoshlaeger, A. Putsoh, R. Radke, M. Rose, C. F. Schroth, E. A. Gerdtsen, F. Kroeger, W. F. Hibbert, Wm. Wedel, W. R. Schmidt, Jacob Scherffins, G. Erdmann, Peter Scherffins, F. Steinhagen, F. C. Kopp. At the present writing there are in all 115 members. The officers are: Eugene Gerstenhauer, president; David Fakler, vice-president; Jacob Girtler, secretary; F. Moebus, financial secretary; C. W. Anding, treasurer; G. Anger, E. W. Rebstork, J. Scherffins, trustees; Arthur Beyerstedts, steward.

#### GERMANIA BAND.

The Germania band was organized in 1857 by Herman Rohweder. The members were as follows: H. Rohweder, leader; Charles Ebert, Wm. Stark, Philip Simmer, Gottlieb Bughorlz, C. Hill, G. S. Story, Henry Leor, Geo. Hazen, Wm. Ross. In 1879 the organization was enlarged; it now consists of a brass-band and an orchestra of stringed instruments. The members at present are Herman Rohweder, Henry Bentz, Jr., Henry Bentz, Sr., Fritz Bentz, Conrad Wolpers, Frank Votruba, Christ Clausen, Henry Clausen, August G. Miller, W. F. Becker, Wm. Becker, Fritz Ulrich, Julius Miller.

#### ST. ALOYSIUS YOUNG MEN'S SOCIETY.

The charter was granted and the society organized in April, 1875. The organizers were N. Schneider, M. Smith, G. Schork and J. Smith. There were nineteen members at first. The names of

the officers are as follows : H. Schroeder, president ; N. Schneider, vice-president ; J. Armand, secretary ; J. Schumacher, assistant secretary ; B. A. Gernes, treasurer.

The society has two objects. The first is benevolence. Members physically unable to work receive from the society \$3 per week until recovery. This is secured by an assessment on each member of twenty-five cents per month. The second object of the society is mutual benefit and pleasure. The officers at present are : J. Hoffarth, president ; J. Smith, vice-president ; J. Semmer, secretary ; F. Winkels, assistant secretary ; A. Wirth, treasurer. The number of members at present is thirty-five.

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## CHAPTER XLIV.

### CHURCHES.

*Presbyterian Church.*—The First Presbyterian Society of Winona was organized July 15, 1856, and its articles of association will be found recorded on page 198, book F, office of register of deeds. The original board of trustees were Henry Day, D. C. Patterson, M.D., J. T. Smith, Daniel Wells and Samuel Moss. Of these, Mr. Day removed to Elkhart, Indiana, in 1861, and died there some years later ; Mr. Wells removed to La Crosse in 1859 ; Dr. Patterson has been a resident of Washington, D.C., for many years, and J. T. Smith has long since removed to Port Byron, New York, his present residence. Mr. Samuel Moss died in Winona, September 5, 1865. The church organization was effected about six weeks after the formation of the society, August 31, 1856, and numbered fifteen members. Rev. Daniel Ames was at that time supplying the pulpit of the recently formed society, and he was assisted in the church organization by Rev. Jacob E. Conrad, of Rochester, Minnesota. Of the original (fifteen) members who constituted the church at the time of its organization there is not one now residing in this city. The officers elected at the organization of the church were : Henry Day, Samuel Moss and John Morrison, elders ; Henry Day, deacon. The only surviving member of the original board of officers is Mr. John Morrison, now residing in



St. Charles, in this county. This church was organized under the auspices of the New School branch of the Presbyterian church, and was upon its organization attached to the Blue Earth presbytery. The first pastor of the church was Rev. Daniel Ames, whose pastorate extended from July, 1856, to April, 1858. The first communion of the church was celebrated September 6, 1856. The first baptism was that of Samuel Dean Moss, son of Samuel and Augusta B. Moss, September 6, 1856. The oldest resident members of the church are Mrs. Calista Balcombe, Mr. Dingman Spelman and Mrs. Amelia Spelman, admitted by letter January 18, 1857. The Rev. Daniel Ames having resigned the pulpit of the society in April, 1858, the church was without a regular minister until December of that year, when Rev. D. C. Lyon was called to the pastorate, accepted, entered upon his duties, and maintained his connection with the church until June, 1867, when he resigned to accept the post of synodical missionary. This position he still fills with great acceptability to the church throughout the entire state, by whom he is sincerely beloved and revered. His residence since his removal from Winona has been at St. Paul. Important changes transpired in the condition and relations of the church during Rev. Lyon's administration, who was familiarly known as "Father Lyon,"—a sobriquet well deserved, as he was literally as well as officially "father of the church." Soon after his acceptance of the pastorate the church severed its connection with the New School branch of Presbyterianism, and transferring its allegiance to the Old School branch united with the presbytery of Winnebago, Wisconsin. The first place of worship of the little church was a small rude frame building erected in 1856, on Fourth street, between the old Congregational church and the residence of the late Wm. Richardson. This building was materially altered, enlarged and improved soon after Father Lyons assumed charge of the church, and in that condition was occupied by the society until the completion of their present church edifice on the corner of Main and Fifth streets, fronting the park. The new church was taken possession of in the fall of 1866, at which time the old building was sold to the Unitarian society, by whom it was sold to V. Simson, Esq., and by him converted into dwellings. The new building was erected mainly through the efforts of Father Lyon. The building committee were Messrs. A. F. Hodgins, Wm. Richardson and Hon. Wm. Mitchell. The church edifice, which at the date of its erection was the finest house for religious worship



W. W. Mayo M. D.



in the city, is of brick, fronting forty feet on Main street; has a total depth of sixty-two feet, and the audience-room proper a seating capacity of 300. To this structure, costing with grounds about \$14,000, has since been added a brick lecture-room facing twenty-six and one-half feet on Fifth street, with a total depth of fifty-two feet, and having additional accommodations for 150 persons. The lecture-room is connected with the main auditorium by folding doors, and as occasion demands the whole can be utilized at once, affording accommodation for 450 people.

The pulpit remained vacant after the resignation of Father Lyon, in the summer of 1867, until July 30, 1868, when a call was extended to the Rev. Joseph M. McNulty, who filled the pulpit until his resignation in March, 1871. The church was without a regular pastor until November of that year, when Rev. Rockwood McQuestin (now of Minneapolis) accepted a call as pastor and maintained his connection with the church until September, 1877, when he accepted a call to the Presbyterian church of Waterloo, Iowa, and severed his connection with the society here. The same fall Rev. W. D. Thomas was called to the church and continued as its pastor until December 15, 1880, when he resigned to accept a call extended him by the Presbyterian church of La Crosse, Wisconsin. During Rev. Thomas' administration the lecture-room and infant class-rooms for Sunday-school work were added at a cost of \$3,000, and a fine organ placed in the auditorium at an additional expense of \$2,400. The church was again without a pastor after the departure of Rev. Thomas until December 1, 1881, when Rev. F. W. Flint, the present incumbent, having accepted the call extended him, entered upon his duties.

The financial condition of the society is good. The maxim of the church management has always been "pay as you go," and with the exception of a small balance still due on the organ the society is without debt.

The present session of the church is composed as follows: Rev. F. W. Flint (ex-officio moderator); P. P. Hubbell, F. F. St. John, J. W. Thomas, W. R. Williams and C. O. Goss. The present board of trustees is as follows: A. F. Hodgins, Wm. Mitchell, J. W. Thomas, W. R. Williams, A. M. Dixon. Of these, W. R. Williams is treasurer and C. O. Goss, clerk. The number of members now upon the church rolls is 166, and the total revenue of the church for 1882, including benevolent contributions and Sunday-



school offerings, was \$3,486.47. There have been 103 baptisms since the organization of the church.

*Presbyterian Sunday School.*—The Sunday school, as first sustained by the church was a union school, and so continued until 1866, when the formal organization of a Sunday school under the immediate direction of the church was perfected. The school had at that time about sixty or seventy scholars, but so imperfect are the records that no specific data can be given. In October of that year, 1866, F. F. St. John assumed charge of the school, and was its superintendent until 1882, when C. O. Goss was elected to that position. This school now numbers about 175, including teachers, and is officered as follows: O. C. Goss, superintendent; W. H. St. John, secretary; H. Thompson, treasurer; Thomas A. Richardson, librarian; F. F. St. John, assistant librarian. Rev. F. W. Flint, present pastor of the church, is a native of the State of New York. He pursued his classical studies at Union College, Schenectady, in his native state, graduating from that institution in the class of 1856. Entering Auburn Theological Seminary, he completed his course of study there, graduating in 1859, and entered upon the work of the ministry immediately afterward. His first pastorate was in Silver Creek, New York. He first came to Minnesota about ten years since, and was in St. Paul prior to coming to this city. Rev. Flint is married, has two children attending school in Winona and one son in Princeton College, New Jersey.

*German Presbyterian Church.*—On February 10, 1864, according to the desire of the presbytery at St. Charles, Rev. D. C. Lyon and Jacob Kolb were appointed to organize the congregation at Winona.

For a year previous to this time, however, meetings under Mr. J. Kolb, who came as a missionary from Iowa, were held in a hall in Winona. Mr. Kolb's duty and desire was to collect and form a congregation, which he succeeded in doing, with the aid of Rev. D. C. Lyon, in 1864.

Jacob Kolb, the first minister, remained with the congregation from 1863 until 1869. A church was erected at the corner of Fifth and Franklin streets in 1864. The building was a frame structure forty feet long and twenty-eight feet wide. It cost \$1,800. Among the prominent members, some of which are residents in Winona to-day, may be mentioned J. Straub, Jacob Kissling, H. Wychgram, Fredrick Moebus, Julius Geise, C. Rohwerder,

J. Wettenberg, Edward Pelzer, Michael Kissinger, Conrad Bohn, George Bohn, Christina Bohn, Anna Pelzer and Margaret Wychgram. From 1869 until 1870 the church was without a pastor. In 1870 Augustus Busch took up the work and continued it until 1872. From 1872 until 1875 Earnest Schuette had charge of the congregation. The church was once more without a minister for a period of one year. In 1876 J. Leierer came and remained until 1879. In 1879 Augustus Busch, the present pastor, was called the second time. The congregation at the present writing numbers seventy-five persons. The interior of the church was improved in 1881, at a cost of \$250. There is a Sabbath school connected with the church, with an average attendance of sixty-five pupils. Rev. Augustus Busch, the pastor, is the superintendent. He is assisted by ten teachers.

It might be of interest to mention, in connection with this, that this church and another small one situated at Frank Hill, ten miles southeast of Winona, are the only German Presbyterian associations in the state.

*The First Congregational church* of Winona was organized December 10, 1854. It was the first church formed in Winona, and, so far as is known, in southern Minnesota. It was the Third Congregational church in the state prior to its formation, and as early as the summer of 1852, when there were not more than twenty children on the prairie, a union Sabbath school was held in the house of Mrs. A. B. Smith. This school was more fully organized in 1853, with Beecher Gore for superintendent. Congregationalists, Baptists and Methodists supported it. Its sessions were held in a little schoolhouse situated on the south side of Second street, between Walnut and Lafayette streets. Here the Congregational church was organized with eighteen members. Rev. H. S. Hamilton, who was in Winona for his health, and who was engaged in secular business, was influential in organizing the church, and both before and after its formation preached as occasion required. The population of Winona at this time was small; its religious life was feeble. The church migrated from house to house, moving from the schoolhouse to a building on the levee, thence to Davidson's Hall, nearly opposite, thence to Hubbard's Hall on Second street, afterward to a room in what was called the bank building, at the corner of Lafayette and Front streets. Its first house of worship was erected in 1856 on the southeast corner of Second and Franklin streets.

The first minister of the church was Rev. H. S. Hamilton, who preached at intervals until 1858. The second minister was Rev. T. T. Waterman, who supplied the church from August, 1856, to October, 1857. The third minister was Rev. David Burt, who commenced his labors May 1, 1858, and continued until August 23, 1866. Rev. J. F. Dudley succeeded him at once, and remained with the church until May 1, 1869. The church was without a regular minister until December 8, 1870, when Rev. H. M. Tenney was installed as its pastor. He resigned May 8, 1875. After an intermission of a year and a half, during which the church was supplied by various ministers, Rev. John H. Morley began his ministry, November 15, 1876, and was installed as pastor March 1, 1877. Of its ministers the first three are dead, and the church remembers gratefully the labors and the sacrifices of these ministers who served them during their weakness. Special mention should be made of the work of Rev. David Burt, under whose ministry the church was unified and took a commanding position in the community.

There have been connected with the church since its formation about six hundred members; of these over two hundred and sixty were admitted upon confession of faith. The present membership is two hundred and sixty-seven. The church is supported by weekly offerings, secured by pledges made at the beginning of the year. Pews are free, but, for the sake of the home feeling, are assigned to those who desire them, that each family may have a home in the Lord's house. The benevolent contributions are also made in weekly offerings secured by a pledge.

The Sabbath school has always been large and flourishing. A large number of children not connected with the families of the church have uniformly been identified with the school. It commonly has a library of about seven hundred volumes. It makes a weekly offering for its own expenses or for benevolent work. The superintendents of the school have been Messrs. H. C. Bolcom, J. C. Laird, W. H. Laird, Wm. Taylor, Wm. Bone, Franklin Staples, M.D., James G. Nind and Irwin Shepard, the latter of whom still continues in office.

Connected with the church and managing its secular affairs there is an ecclesiastical society, organized in 1857. This body is incorporated according to the laws of the state, and owns the church property. The women of the church have a woman's board of missions, devoted to foreign missions, and a ladies' benevolent

society which cares for home missions and for the poor of the congregation. The young people have a society called the Gleaners, which is interested in home and foreign missions. In addition, there are the various ladies' meetings without special organization.



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

The first house of worship, a frame building, was dedicated December 21, 1856. It cost, including lots, \$4,000. In the summer of 1863 it was moved to the southeast corner of Lafayette and Fourth streets, and was repaired. In 1868 it was enlarged by



lengthening. In 1870 a vestry was built in the rear. In 1882 it was sold and devoted to secular uses. In 1875 a site was selected on the corner of Broadway and Johnson street for a new church. In the autumn of 1879 a subscription was started for building; in the spring of 1880 ground was broken; August 19, the corner-stone was laid with appropriate ceremonies. The building was completed in 1882, and October 8 was formally dedicated to the worship of Almighty God.

Prof. F. W. Fisk, D.D., of Chicago Theological Seminary, preached the sermon, and the pastor offered the prayer of consecration. The church, which was fully paid for prior to the day of dedication, cost, with the lots and furnishing, excluding organ, \$38,000. The cost of the building alone was \$30,000. It is built of a whitish limestone, trimmed with red sandstone. It has an auditorium seating six hundred and fifty, a chapel for the use of the Sabbath school, holding over five hundred, and various other conveniences. A much larger number can be accommodated, both in the auditorium and the chapel, if occasion requires. The style of architecture is composite. The chapel has a semi-circular room lighted by a dome, with class-rooms surrounding, all of which can be thrown together. For beauty and convenience, as well as for thoroughness of work, the house is believed to be one of the finest in the Northwest. Mr. W. H. Wilcox, of Chicago, is the architect.

This church, in common with other Congregational churches, lives in fellowship with the churches of its order, both accepting and giving advice; but it is independent of all ecclesiastical control, acknowledging only the supreme authority of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is democratic in government, all its affairs being controlled by the adult membership. It believes in evangelical religion, and requires of those seeking to enter its communion credible evidence of conversion and Christian character. In promoting the religious life of the community, and so building society in temperance, righteousness, patriotism and education; in securing the religious nurture of the young, both in its own families and in neglected households; in practical interest in missionary operations at home and abroad, this church is doing good work.

*St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church.*—This parish was organized pursuant to the territorial laws of Minnesota, under the direction of Rev. J. S. Van Lugen, secretary of the Protestant Epis-

copal church for Minnesota, May 13, 1856, as St. Paul's church in the city of Winona. At this time there was not a male communicant to participate in the organization, nor had any of the officers or incorporators made a personal profession of religion. The Rev. E. P. Gray was the first missionary of the new parish and continued his services here nearly one year, when upon the advice of the bishop, Rev. B. Evans, living at that time upon his farm in Rolling Stone township, officiated at morning services as his health would permit. In February, 1862, Rev. J. H. Waterbury was sent by Bishop Whipple to look after the interests of the parish, at which time there were two male and three female communicants. The following month Mr. Waterbury assumed charge of the parish as its rector, upon invitation of the vestry, and his salary was fixed at \$600 per annum. The society had been worshiping since its organization in the hall of the Huff house, then in the Lamberton warehouse, and finally in a hall over Wheeler's store on Centre street, which latter place was burned in the great fire of July, 1862, entailing a loss of \$500 upon the parish. During that summer afternoon services were held in the Presbyterian and Baptist churches, until at Christmas time the society took possession of a building they had inclosed on the corner of Fifth and Lafayette streets, upon a lot donated them by Asa Forsyth, Esq. This building was completed and consecrated June 10 of that year (1863), the total cost of building being about \$2,500. The church continued its services here until the fall of 1870, when the building was removed to the corner of Fifth and Broadway streets, and the lot it had occupied was sold. In the new location the removed building was refitted for worship, and occupied by the church until they took possession of their present beautiful and commodious edifice, Christmas day, 1874. For this new structure ground was broken in the summer of 1873, the corner-stone laid September 25 of that year, and the whole completed as it now stands, and occupied as above stated, December 25, 1874. The extreme length of the structure is 115 feet, main 80×48 feet, chancel 26×25 feet, width of nave 44 feet, seating capacity (500). The walls are of dressed stone, the porch and tower floors are handsomely tiled and the inside finished in white ash and black walnut woods. There are eighteen beautiful memorial windows, the richest of which is that at the south end of the building, opposite the chancel, commemorative of the pastorate of the Rev. T. M. Riley, rector of the parish from July, 1869, to October, 1872. The entire cost of

building and furnishing, including the bell and a superb organ, costing \$3,500, has been about \$35,000.

The successive rectors of St. Paul's have been Rev. Theodore Holcomb (Rev. Waterbury's successor), from April, 1865, to April, 1869; Rev. T. M. Riley, from July, 1869, to October, 1872; Rev. R. M. Laurie, from December, 1872, to June 30, 1877, when his resignation was rendered imperative on account of failing health; Rev. Charles W. Ward, from December, 1877, until April, 1879, and the present incumbent, Rev. E. J. Purdy, who became rector in June, 1879.

The original officers of the church were: Noah L. Smith, warden; Thomas E. Bennett, treasurer; R. H. Bingham, clerk. Their nomination was made at the Easter meeting of the society in 1857, and their appointment, which was duly made by J. W. Van Lugen, D.D., then secretary of the Protestant Episcopal church in Minnesota, bears date April 27, 1857.

The present parish officers are: W. H. Yale, senior warden; W. H. Hulburt, junior warden; W. J. Whipple, clerk, and Wm. Cunningham, treasurer. Messrs. W. J. Whipple, O. M. Wheeler, Charles Horton, L. B. Frost and Wm. Cunningham compose the vestry. The present number of communicants at St. Paul's is 175, and there are 105 families included in the parish. Since the organization of the parish in 1856 there have been 477 baptisms and 271 confirmations.

The first record of the Sabbath school connected with the parish bears date 1862, but there are no authentic minutes of its organization. The number of persons at that time connected with the Sabbath school was about 60, present number nearly 200. The officers of the school are: Rev. E. J. Purdy, rector; Wm. A. Cunningham, superintendent; E. S. Gregory, treasurer, and Harry Raymond, secretary and librarian.

Rev. E. J. Purdy, rector of St. Paul's, is a native of Connecticut and a graduate of Phillips Academy, Exeter, New Hampshire, class of 1853. Four years later, 1857, he took his degree from Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut, and then entered the Theological Seminary of New York, from which he graduated in 1860. That same year he was invested with deacons' orders in Trinity, New York, and two years later was ordained priest in Louisville, Kentucky. His first parish was Washington, Arkansas, over which he was settled in 1860, and which he was still serving when the war broke out, was arrested

as a military spy at Memphis on his way north, and released through the representations of Military Bishop Pope. November 25, 1862, Rev. Purdy was commissioned chaplain in the regular army, and served until the close of the war. Since then he has been constantly engaged in pastoral work. He was at New Albany and Logansport, Indiana, prior to coming to Minnesota in 1869. He has three children, two in school in this city and one son in college at Fairbault in this state.

*The First Methodist Episcopal Church* of Winona was organized, April 22, 1855, by Rev. David Brooks, presiding elder of Minnesota district Wisconsin conference. Its first members were Joel Smith and wife, William T. Luark and wife, and Mrs. Mary Stockton. Rev. A. J. Nelson, F. A. Conwell and Esdras Smith, in the order named, were temporary pastors (supplies) for a few months each, by appointment of the presiding elder, from April, 1855, until August, 1856, when J. W. Stogdill was appointed, who served for two years. The first Sunday school was organized in March, 1856, and D. M. Evans and Thomas Simpson were appointed to superintend and procure money for a library. This year the first church building was erected, and dedicated November 16, 1856. It was a plain, substantial wooden house, dimensions 44×60 feet, and located just north of the site of the present building, corner of Lafayette and Fifth streets. The second session of the Minnesota annual conference was held in this house in August, 1857, Bishop E. R. Ames presiding.

The following ministers have filled the office of pastor in this church at the times and in the order named: Geo. A. Phoebus, 1858-9; John Quigley, 1859-60; Jabez Brooks, D.D., 1860-61; Lias Bolles, 1861-62; J. S. Peregrine, 1862-64; Edward Eggleston, 1864-66; William McKinley, 1866-69; Chauncey Hobart, D.D., 1869-70; Earl Cranston, 1870-71; Cyrus Brooks, D.D., 1871-74; William McKinley, 1874-77; Isaac Crook, D.D., 1877-80; William McKinley, 1880-82.

In 1872 the present church was built and dedicated at a cost (including ground) of about \$20,000. In 1874 Olive Branch mission was organized, and the chapel built by the Young Men's Christian Association, purchased for its use. Rev. L. Wright was its first pastor, 1877-8, followed by Rev. Wm. Soule, 1878-9, under whose pastorate Wesley mission, in the east end of the city, was organized. These two missions constitute one charge, now under care of Rev.



James Door, who followed Mr. Soule. A good substantial church was built at the east end in 1881, at a cost of \$4,500, and an equally good one in 1882, at the west end, at about the same cost.

The membership of first church has been reduced by numerous removals, and by transfers to the east and west missions. Its present membership is 250; mission churches, 120; German Methodist Episcopal church, 75; total Methodist membership, 445; First church Sunday school, 300; Mission church Sunday school, 250; German Methodist Episcopal church Sunday school, 150; total Sunday schools, 700.

*German Methodist Episcopal church.*—This congregation, organized in October, 1860, grew out of the English Methodist Episcopal church. The church building was erected on the corner of Fifth and Liberty streets in 1859, at a cost of \$3,000. The first pastor was John Westerfeld, who remained until 1860. After Rev. Westerfeld came a line of twelve ministers; they are as follows: Herman Richter, 1860-61; W. Traeger, 1861-62; Wm. Fiegenbaum, 1862-65; Wm. Schreimer, 1865-66; Geo. Hoerger, 1866-67; Edward Schuette, 1867-69; Fredrich Rinder, 1869-70; August Lamprechd, 1870-72; John Hansen, 1872-74; J. L. Schaefer, 1874-77; Geo. Hoerger, 1877-80; Wm. Koerner, the present minister, 1880-82-83.

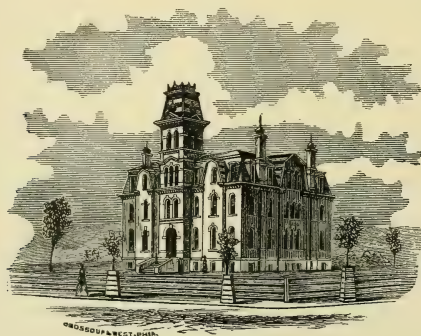
In 1878 the church was remodeled and improved by the addition of a spire. There are now 75 members, some of whom reside in the country. A Sabbath school was organized with the church; it has 150 pupils, 28 teachers and a library of 220 volumes.

*Catholic Churches.*—The Catholic church as an organized body began its mission in Winona county in 1856. Previous to this time priests had traversed with zeal the entire county; but beyond a few emblems of the great mysteries of the Holy Trinity, incarnation and redemption found on the remains of early Catholic voyagers buried on the banks of the Mississippi, there are but slight traces of their zeal. As early as April, 1841, the Rev. A. Ravoux, now the vicar-general of the diocese of St. Paul, made the site of Winona a resting-place on one of his journeys from St. Paul to Prairie du Chien. In 1856 the Rev. Joseph Cretin, the first bishop of Minnesota and Dakota, visited Winona and organized the few Catholics into a parish, and in 1857 he appointed Rev. Thomas Murray to visit and attend the wants of the new religious settlement. Father Murray selected two lots in what is now the southwestern corner of the first ward as likely to be the very center of a thriving

city. He prepared to put up a frame building, suitable for church use and future residence or school purposes. The church received the name of "St. Thomas." Rev. A. Oster, then on mission duty throughout Minnesota, made occasional visits to the little congregation, and in 1857 succeeded in completing the church. In July, 1858, the Rev. Michael Prendergast succeeded him, and became the first resident Catholic pastor of Winona. His first work was to organize into an energetic band the Catholics about the country. Through his energy a parochial school was established and placed under the Sisters of St. Bridget. The purchase of three lots on Centre and Wabasha streets, and the removal of the church from its distant position to its present site on Centre and Wabasha streets were accomplished. Father Prendergast attended all the Catholics in Wabasha, Olmsted, Houston, Fillmore, Steele and Mower counties. In August, 1862, Rev. Theodore Venn was sent to assist him. Father Venn was given charge of the Germans, Bohemians and Poles. He organized the St. Joseph parish, built the frame church, and administered to the wants of the remainder of the flock throughout the county by visiting them and holding service from house to house. He remained until December, 1863. On the departure of Father Prendergast, early in 1864, Father Morris attended the above missions until the appointment of Rev. Wm. Lette as pastor in April of the same year. Father Lette had all the Catholics of the county under his charge until June, 1868. In his time, the present church buildings of St. Charles and Hart were begun, and the foundation of St. Thomas' church of Winona built. Rev. Alois Plut succeeded him in 1868. During his time the church of the Immaculate Conception in Wilson, of St. Aloysius in Elba, and the fine stone church of the Holy Trinity in Rolling Stone were built and dedicated. Besides this, St. Stanislaus' church of Winona was begun, portions of the St. Thomas' church of Winona completed, St. Charles' church of St. Charles built, and St. Joseph's church of Winona was enlarged.

A parochial school was built and maintained by him with excellent success in St. Joseph's parish. In the fall of 1871 this was placed under the Sisters of Notre Dame. During the year 1869 he was aided by Rev. C. Koeberl and Rev. M. Sturenberg. Father Sturenberg took charge of the Ridgway mission, where he built a neat chapel in 1874. Rev. W. Reirdon attended the St. Charles mission during part of the years 1870-71. In June, 1871, Father

Plut received much needed relief by the coming of Rev. J. B. Cotter, who had been assigned charge of the English-speaking Catholics of Winona county. The latter has remained in charge until the present day. During his administration some harassing debts have been removed. The churches of St. Thomas, of Winona, of St. Charles, in St. Charles, and of SS. Peter and Paul, of Hart, have been sufficiently advanced and furnished to fit them for dedication and use. By the generosity of Peter Peters, of Lewiston, a property of four acres for church and cemetery purposes was secured. In 1876 the church of St. Rosa, of Lima, was built upon this ground. In 1873 two lots and a two-story house were purchased by the St. Thomas parish, which then possessed an entire half block of



MADISON SCHOOL.

property with ample room for the parish house, school-buildings and hall, which were erected in 1877. The parochial schools of St. Thomas were established by Rev. J. B. Cotter, in 1874, and were immediately placed under the Sisters of Notre Dame. Each school has had since its organization an annual roll of 200 pupils, with an average attendance of about 130. The St. Thomas has a reputation for its work in the cause of temperance, through its Father Mathew T. A. and B. Society, organized January 28, 1872, and having branches in Hart and St. Charles, it has exercised a powerful influence in the morals of the people. In 1875 the church at Hart was enlarged and the altar replaced by one of an elegant design and finish. A wing addition 20×30 feet was also added for the use of the school and society. Since then an annual summer school

is held. Rev. J. B. Cotter assumed charge of St. Patrick's church at Ridgway, in January, 1877. He provided it with an altar and furniture. In 1878 he resigned it to Rev. P. Pernin, the present pastor. During a part of the years 1879-80 Rev. J. B. Cotter was assisted in the charge of St. Thomas, of Winona, St. Charles, of St. Charles, and SS. Peter and Paul, by Revs. E. Fagan and D. A. Reilley.

*St. Joseph (German), and Missions attached.*—After the departure of Rev. A. Plut, in the spring of 1876, the parish of St. Joseph, Winona, was assigned to Rev. R. Byzewski, who attended it in connection with Rev. Cotter until the appointment of Rev. F. C. Walters as pastor in May, 1876. During Rev. Walters' administration the church and parish house were renovated, and the latter enlarged. A much needed school building was also added before his departure in December, 1877. Rolling Stone and Wilson churches were also erected by him. The parish was attended until February, 1878, by Revs. J. B. Cotter and P. J. Gallagher. On February 11, 1878, the present pastor, Rev. Aloysius Heller, entered into charge of St. Joseph, in Winona, and the church of the Immaculate Conception, of Wilson. His first work in the St. Joseph parish was the removal of all debts, the purchase of the lot between the parish house and the convent, and the raising of a fund for the building of a new church. In the spring of 1881 the parish house and church were each moved one lot westward, and the foundation for the new church was erected on the site of the old, at the corner of Fifth and Lafayette streets. The corner-stone was laid on April 30, 1882, in the presence of innumerable people.

The church now nearly ready for service is a Gothic structure of red brick faced with white stone, with a massive tower and beautiful spire. Preparations are being made to put a large four-dial clock in the tower. The proportions of the church are 114×48 feet; nave 41 feet high and spire 172 feet high. The parish of St. Rosa of Lima, Lewiston, has been attached as a mission to St. Joseph's church since 1878, and in 1880 Rev. A. Heller improved the church by finishing it with brick veneering.

*St. Stanislaus' Church.*—The charge of the growing parish of St. Stanislaus, organized in 1872, for the Catholic Poles of Winona, by Rev. A. Plut, was given in 1873 to Rev. Joseph Juskiewicz. He remained until 1873, built the parish residence and completed the church. Rev. Romuald Byzewski succeeded in 1875. In the in-



terval the Poles attended the churches of St. Thomas and St. Joseph. Father Byzewski has purchased an additional lot, erected a substantial two-story school building, maintained a school, enlarged the church to double its former size and paid all debts.

*Catholic Societies of St. Stanislaus' Church.*—St. Stanislaus Kostka Society was organized in 1870 with a membership of thirty. The following officers were elected : President Nicolaus Triba; secretary, Martin Bambenek; treasurer, Tietel Sikorski. The society was chartered in 1874, with a membership of forty. The officers at present are: President, Jos. Milanowski; secretary, John Anglewicz; treasurer, Andreas Jaszdziwski. There are at present a membership of 104 persons. The society pays a weekly benefit of \$3 in case of sickness, and in case of death \$5 per month to the widow as long as she remains a widow.

St. Casimir's Society, organized in 1873 with a membership of twenty-five, and the following officers elected : President, Alexander Prochowicz; secretary, Theodore Wysocki; treasurer, Andreas Yezeswski. In 1878 the society was chartered with a membership of thirty-seven persons. The present officers are : President, John Bambenek; vice-president, Wm. Bambenek; secretary, Stanislaus Wyganowski; assistant-secretary, Robert Zuborowski; treasurer, Alexander Prochowicz. The society has a present membership of eighty-six persons. It pays a weekly benefit of \$3 in case of sickness; if death results, the widow or heirs receives \$2 per week.

*Catholic Societies of St. Thomas' Church.*—Father Mathew Total Abstinence and Benevolent Society was organized January 28, 1872, by Rev. J. B. Cotter, Wm. Noonan, R. Cavanaugh, J. McCrummish, Wm. Keyes, E. H. Condon, Jas. Flynn, John Rowe, N. White and J. Flynn. The first officers were : President, Rev. J. B. Cotter; vice-president, W. Keyes; second vice-president, J. McCrummish; treasurer, P. J. Kelley; recording secretary, R. Cavanaugh; financial secretary, W. Noonan; corresponding secretary, J. B. Rowe; board of managers, J. Morgan, J. Rowe, T. Burns, J. Cronin, and E. McDonnell; board of auditors were C. Harrigan, E. H. Condon and M. Gallagher. The president officers are : President, Rev. J. B. Cotter; vice-president, Wm. Keyes; recording secretary, John Flavin; financial secretary, Thomas Hunt; corresponding secretary, J. T. Rowan; treasurer, C. Harrigan; librarian, J. Rowan.

St. Thomas Benevolent Society, organized May 10, 1880. The

officers were : President, C. Harrigan ; vice-president, John Murphy ; secretary, James O'Brien ; treasurer, Tim Burns ; chairman and sick committee, P. English ; spiritual adviser, Rev. J. B. Cotter. But one change has been made since then in the officers, namely, in place of P. English is J. Rowan. This society pays a weekly benefit to its members in sickness, and \$50 to the heirs in case of death.

Catholic Knights of America, organized October 16, 1882, with a membership of fourteen. The first officers were: President, C. Harrigan ; vice-president, T. Slaven ; recording secretary, J. O'Brien ; financial secretary, W. Keyes ; treasurer, P. English ; spiritual adviser, Father Cotter. Present officers : President, C. Harrigan ; vice-president, T. Slaven ; recording secretary, J. O'Brien ; financial secretary, W. Keyes ; treasurer, J. Keenan ; spiritual adviser, Rev. J. B. Cotter. This association is a branch of the C. K. of A., a mutual insurance society, which insures its members for either \$1,000 or \$2,000.

*German Catholic Church.*—In the year 1862 Father Theodor Venn came to Winona and founded the German St. Joseph congregation, which before that time had belonged to the Irish congregation. He built the St. Joseph church, on the corner of Fifth and Walnut streets. In the year 1864 Rev. W. Lette came to Winona and took charge of the church until 1868. In 1868 Rev. Alois Plut came to the St. Joseph congregation. During his administration the wooden church was enlarged, the School Sisters of Notre Dame introduced, and the churches of Phillipp Ridge, of Rolling Stone, and the new St. Thomas church were built. The above-named three pastors had charge of all Winona county and all the German, Irish and Polish people ; but in the last years of their administration, that is during Father Plut's term, the Polish St. Stanislaus and the Irish St. Thomas church were built, and both got their own pastors. St. Stanislaus secured the services of Rev. R. Byzewski—and St. Thomas, of Rev. J. B. Cotter. In the year 1876 the Rev. F. C. Walter came to the St. Joseph congregation and remained until 1877. During his administration a new schoolhouse was built. On February 11 the Rev. A. Heller took possession of this congregation. His first labor was to pay off the debt of the church, which amounted to \$2,000. After having been successful in this respect a new lot was bought from Mr. Maas, and on it were placed the priest's house and the Sisters house. The St. Joseph congregation was incorporated in the year 1879. On April 8, 1881, a meeting was held

in the church, and it was resolved that as the old wooden building had become too small a fine new brick church should be built. This building is now in a state of erection. In the spring of 1881 the moving of the old church was commenced. The priest's house was moved to the new lot and the church to the old site of the priest's house, in order to make way for the new church. C. G. Maybury & Son were chosen to act as superintendent and architect. The size of the church is  $48 \times 114$  feet, with a tower 170 feet high, containing the first tower clock ever placed in Winona. The building committee were: T. B. Kouh, Joseph Schlingerman, C. M. Gerner, John Winkels, J. Braendle, Jacob Mawry and John Ludwig. In the summer of 1881 the contract for the foundation was given to Kratz & Co., who finished their work in the fall of 1881. In January, 1882, the contract for the main building was given out. The brickwork was given to Kratz & Co., and the carpenter-work to Noonan & Stellwager. On April 31, Right Rev. John Treland came to lay the corner-stone. The ceremonies were conducted with great solemnity, and were held in the presence of a large concourse of people. All the Catholic societies of the city were in attendance and paraded on the occasion. The procession was a large and imposing one.

*The First Baptist Church* of Winona was organized September 20, 1855, at which time the Rev. Samuel Combs commenced his ministerial labors with that society. He continued his ministry here until the early part of 1858, and it was during his pastorate that the church was built, 1857. It is a frame structure,  $43 \times 60$  feet, standing upon the southeast corner of Center and Fourth streets, one block from what is now the principal business corner of the city, the lot fronting 60 feet on Fourth street, with a depth of 140 on Center street. Cost of original structure not known. In 1870 a lecture-room was added with an entrance on Center street, and the society has now a very comfortable house of worship, heated with furnaces, provided with good Sabbath-school room and furnished with an excellent pipe-organ. The seating capacity of the auditorium is 250, lecture-room 125. The present number of communicants is 117. The church officers are: Trustees, Messrs. Alonzo Holland, F. A. Robertson and A. C. Dixon, the latter of whom is church clerk. The deacons are Messrs. Curtiss Leary, W. G. McCutchen and N. C. Gault.

The church has not been noted for lengthy pastorates, and the suc-

cession has been as follows : Rev. Samuel Combs, whose pastorate commenced in 1855, terminating in January, 1858 ; Rev. O. O. Stearns from November, 1869, to January, 1863 ; L. B. Teft from January, 1863, to February, 1867 ; Rev. Geo. W. Stone, D.D., from August, 1867, to April, 1870 ; Rev. D. Read, D.D., from April, 1870, to October, 1872 ; Rev. J. F. Rowley from April, 1874, to October, 1877 ; Rev. Thomas G. Field from February, 1879, to December, 1881, and Rev. E. T. Hiscox, the present pastor, who assumed charge of the church March 1, 1882. The congregations are not large, but are steadily growing under the ministerial conduct of Rev. Hiscox, who is an earnest worker and as fearless a speaker within the sphere of his own convictions as can be found in any pulpit of the city.

The Sabbath school in connection with the church was formally organized about April 1, 1856, but the society had been maintaining a union Sabbath school in connection with the congregational and Methodist people since 1853. The present membership of the school is about 150. The officers are: Superintendent, H. W. Kingsbury ; assistant superintendent, F. A. Robinson ; secretary and treasurer, Cyrus Crosgrove ; librarian, Mrs. A. Holland ; yearly Sabbath school collections, \$100.

E. T. Hiscox, pastor of Baptist church, Winona, is a native of Norwich, Connecticut, a graduate of the college of the city of New York, class of 1869, and of the theological seminary at Rochester, New York, class of 1872. Was first settled over a parish in Massachusetts and remained there until 1876, when he removed to Iowa city, Iowa, having accepted a call to the pulpit of the Baptist church in that collegiate city. Commenced his labors with the Winona Baptist church in the early summer of 1882. Mr. Hiscox is married, has four children, two of them attending the city schools.

*St. Martin's First Evangelical Lutheran Church.*—This church was organized in the year 1856, it being the first Lutheran church in the county. The prominent members were : John Barthels, Tobias Leeb, Nicholis Wenk and C. Henning. L. F. E. Krause was the first minister officiating. Mr. Krause remained with the congregation from its organization in 1856 until the year 1859, when he was called away. From 1859 until 1861 the congregation were without a pastor. Rev. Krause returned to the church in 1861, where he remained until 1864. From 1864 until 1866 the church was again deserted, excepting that occasional visits were made by other ministers. Among these may be mentioned Rev. A. Brand, F. J.



Mueller and G. Wollaeger. In June, 1866, Rev. Philip Von Rohr, the present pastor, took charge of the church.

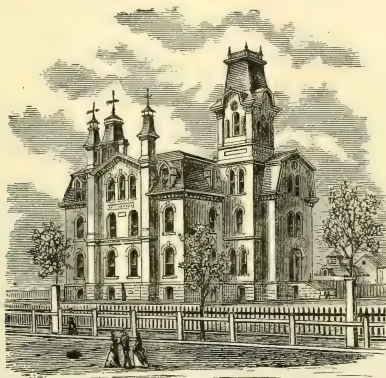
The first church was dedicated in December, 1856. It was a small frame structure, 18×30 feet. In 1866, when Rev. Philip Von Rohr made his appearance, the congregation consisted of nine members or families. In 1867 the building was enlarged by adding to it twenty feet and improving the inside. In 1870 the present church, a substantial brick structure, standing on the corner of Broadway and Liberty streets, was erected. The building is 40×70 feet. It has a spire ninety feet high, projecting ten feet from the main building. The congregation at present numbers about 225 members. A Sabbath school was organized in 1870, and is now in a prosperous condition. At present it consists of about 350 pupils, with 25 teachers. They possess a library of nearly 1,000 volumes.

*German Lutheran School.*—In connection with the church, a parochial school was established in 1866. It was taught the first four years by the present pastor, Rev. Von Rohr, the average number of attending pupils being 100. In 1880 the congregation bought two lots on Fifth street and erected a new school building, 50×60 feet, with a projecting tower fifty feet high. Two classes have been arranged, with two male teachers.

*German Zion (Evangelical) Church.*—Traveling ministers were at work some time before any church organizations were made; among these may be mentioned Revs. A. Farnutzer, A. Huelster, W. Stegner and C. Brill. Rev. A. Farnutzer made his appearance in 1858; he held meetings at the residence of Mr. Hesse. He remained until 1860. In 1860 A. Huelster came to Winona and remained one year, holding service in a hall in the town. Next came Mr. W. Stegner, from 1861 until 1862, then C. Brill, from 1862 until 1865. Finally Rev. J. Kuder came, built the church and organized the congregation in the year 1866. Then followed a line of six pastors; they are as follows: Rev. G. Knebel, 1869–70; E. H. Bauman, 1870–71; H. Bunse, 1871–74; A. Knebel, 1874–76; W. Oehler, 1876–79; J. Mantly, 1879–82; J. G. Simmons, the present pastor, 1882. The church is a frame building standing on the corner of Fourth and Franklin streets. The length is forty-four feet, the width twenty-six feet. It has a spire thirty-five feet high. The building was remodeled and enlarged in 1881 at a cost of \$800. The present membership is about seventy, part of which reside in the country around Winona. A. Sabbath school

connected with the church has a membership of seventy-five pupils, twelve teachers and a library of 200 volumes. There also exists a missionary society; the leaders in this are Mr. F. Maas, John Thomsen and J. G. Simmons. The average collection is \$100 per year.

*The Second Advent Christian Church.* — Owing to the records of this church having been removed beyond our reach, or lost track of entirely, it has proven a difficult task to secure complete definite information. The following was furnished by Mrs. Elizabeth Wate, one of the earliest members, who clung to the church through all its vicissitudes. The congregation was organized in 1862, but some



HIGH SCHOOL.

time previous to this meetings were held in Pleasant Valley, and also in the court-house hall and Houseman's hall in Winona. This was before the church was built. The building is a small rough, unpainted frame structure standing on Broadway, between Washington and Winona streets. The members of the first organization are as follows: Warren Rowell, Samuel Bates, Ruth Rowell, Lucy Bates and Elizabeth Wate. Rev. T. K. Allen was the first permanent minister, the congregation having been visited by pastors from abroad before he came. When Rev. Mr. Allen left, the congregation were taken in charge by Mrs. Mansfield, who delivered a series of sermons. After Mrs. Mansfield came Elder Edwin T. Himes; his administration was cut short by his death. From 1879 until

1880 Mrs. Rowell had charge of the church. Since her departure in 1880 until the present writing, the church has been without a minister. The church at present is not in a flourishing condition, and its existence is rather doubtful.

*Bohemian Church.*—This church was organized from the congregation of the German Catholic church in 1879. The number of members is now about eighty. The congregation have had no meetings or pastor under their new organization as yet. A church building is under course of erection on Broadway. St. John will be the name given to this new church.

*St. Joseph's Catholic Benevolent Society.*—This society was organized in February, 1866. It was not chartered until February, 1869. The first officers and organizers were: President, N. G. Krieg; vice-president, Joseph Helle; secretary, Franc Trampont; assistant secretary, Wm. Schneider; treasurer, G. N. Schork. The direct object was to aid the members in sickness, and to defray expenses of interment and assist the family in case of death. When a member became unable to work he received from the society \$3 per week until his recovery. Since that time, however, this has been increased to \$4 per week. The membership fee has always remained the same—25 cents per month. If a member dies his burial expenses are paid and the widow receives \$25 in money. The society started out with but 17 members; it has increased since then to 116. The present officers are: President, John Winkels; vice-president, Andrew Seyfried; treasurer, F. P. Schumacher; secretary, Gottfried Strunk; assistant secretary, Alexander Prochowitz. The society is in a prosperous condition. During the year 1881 it distributed among the sick the sum of \$272.

*German Catholic Benevolent Association of Minnesota.*—In connection with the St. Joseph organization there is another society, having more of the aspect of a life insurance association. It is not confined to one locality, but has members all over the state, and includes on the whole twenty-five or twenty-six different branches. This society was organized in 1878. There are in all about 1,100 members. The society receives all persons between the ages of eighteen and forty-five. At the death of a member the widow and orphans receive within sixty days the sum of \$1,000 from the society. The assessment upon each member is from \$1.10 to \$1.30 at every death.

*St. John's Catholic (Bohemian) Benevolent Society.*—The charter of this society was granted July 2, 1871. This organization in

Winona is simply one of a large association throughout the United States. It comprises in all about seventy-two societies. When the branch in Winona was incorporated it numbered about fourteen members, but up to the present time the number has increased to eighty-two. The first officers were: President, Frank Votruba; secretary, Joseph Kasimor; treasurer, Frank Albrecht. Its object is to aid its members in sickness. They receive during their illness \$3 per week, and at their death the widow receives \$600 from the *entire* organization. At the present writing the society is in a prosperous condition, having over \$1,000 in the treasury. The officers at present are as follows: President, Joseph Kasimor; vice-president, Frank Lejsek; secretary, M. Ridel; assistant-secretary, John Cerny; treasurer, Frank Votruba.

*St. Ann's Ladies' Society.*—This society was founded in July, 1868, by the Rev. Alois Plut. Its object was the decoration of the church altar. It comprises about fifty members. The officers are: President, Mrs. Francesca Scheer; secretary, Mrs. Anna Hitzger; treasurer, Mrs. Johanna Braendle.

St. Rosa's Young Ladies' Society was founded by Rev. Alois Plut in 1869. There are about thirty members. The officers are: President, Miss Louise Hengl; treasurer, Miss Lena Schmidt; secretary, Miss Margaretha Schneider.

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## CHAPTER XLV.

### BUSINESS INCORPORATIONS.

*Winona Gas Light Company.*—Winona had grown to a city of over 7,000 population, and her industries and trade were assuming metropolitan proportions before any attempt was made to light her streets. This fact, seemingly incredible to the dwellers in lower latitudes, argues nothing against the enterprise of the city, as the moon and stars in this high latitude have a brilliancy unknown along the lower parallels, which, together with the lengthening twilight, materially decreases the necessity of artificial illumination. However, in 1870 it was thought by certain citizens possessed of cash and public spirit that the time had come for lighting the



streets of the growing city, and on August 1 of that year the Winona Gas Light Company was organized with a paid up capital stock of \$60,000. Of the original incorporators, ten in number, the following are still residents of the city: Hon. Wm. Mitchell, Hon. Thomas Simpson, F. M. Cockrell, V. Simpson, Hon. Thomas Wilson, J. J. Randall, H. M. Lamberton and R. D. Cone. The shares of the other two incorporators are now held, one each, by the First and Second National Banks of the city. The present officers of the company are: J. J. Randall, president; J. H. Jones, secretary; J. A. Prentiss, treasurer. Under the superintendency of James Russell, a practical gas manufacturer, who has had charge of the works since their construction, buildings were erected, apparatus supplied, pipes located,—and on April 9, 1871, the first gas was sent out to consumers. The consumption of gas, which at first was 3,450 feet daily, has steadily increased until the consumption averages nearly 30,000 feet a day, supplied to the city and private consumers through a series of mains aggregating a total length of eight miles. Gas is supplied to private consumers for \$3 per thousand feet; to the 106 city lamps it is furnished at a cost of \$25 per lamp per annum. Posts and lamps supplied to the city at cost. Their office is in room No. 6, Simpson's Block, where the secretary is always found ready for business. The works are at the intersection of Huff and Third streets, in block 69; fronting 140 feet on Third street and 200 feet on Huff. The manufactory covers about 2,000 square feet of ground. They have ample shed room for the year's coal consumption, which aggregates 800 tons, and the works give employment to a superintendent and four men. In addition to the lamps supplied by the gas company the streets are furnished with thirty coal-oil lamps in locations where gas-mains are not yet laid, and maintained at an average annual cost to the city of \$11 per lamp for oil and attendance.

J. H. Jones, secretary of the gaslight company since its organization, was born in Chatauqua county, New York. Educated at Westfield Academy in his native county and came to Winona in 1856. He was appointed deputy sheriff that same year and held the office until 1860; was bookkeeper for J. J. Randall thirteen years; has represented his ward, the first, in the city council, and during 1880 was city clerk. His business life has been spent in clerical work, and he has held a desk for the past five years in the real estate office of V. Simpson. Mr. Jones married Nettie Warner, October

22, 1861, and of their two surviving children, one is in attendance upon the city schools. In 1864 Mr. Jones became a member of Winona Lodge, No. 18, A. F. and A. M. He is also a member of Winona Chapter, No 5.

James Russell, superintendent of the city gasworks, is a native of Scotland, from which country he emigrated to America in 1858. He had a practical experience of several years as a manufacturer of gas and in fitting up gaswork before coming to Winona in 1870 to assume charge of the works in this city.

*The Winona Mill Company.*—This company, one of the largest flour manufacturing concerns in the country, was incorporated as a joint stock company September 12, 1879, with a paid up capital stock of \$80,000, which was increased three years later to \$250,000. The original incorporators were L. R. Brooks, A. G. Mowbray, R. T. Doud, Chauncey Doud and C. L. Bonner. The present officers are: L. R. Brooks, president; A. G. Mowbray, superintendent; R. T. Doud, secretary. Their property lies between Front street and the river, with Market street on the east and Walnut on the west; a full block 300 feet square. The corner-stone of their mill, said by competent milling authority to be the largest steam flouring-mill in the United States, was laid on September 20, 1879, and the building completed in May of the following year, at which time milling operations were begun. It is a frame structure, iron sheeted, 75×100 feet, rising eight stories above the basement and amply supplied with all appliances for extinguishing fires and fire escape. A standpipe rises within the mill to the full height of the building, with sectional hose attached upon each floor; there is a fire-escape ladder in front and two knotted ropes on each floor at opposite sides of the mill, thus affording three avenues of escape in case fire should break out in the lower floors and communication with the stairways be cut off. The engine-room is of brick 25×90 feet, furnished with compound Corliss engines of 750 horse power, supplemented with Reynold's independent condenser and air-pump. The boiler-room, also of brick, is 40×55 feet, and there is a two-story brick coalhouse 40×45, the upper story of which is used for packing flour. The mill and engine room are lit by electric light supplied from seventy Edison burners. The offices are commodious, well-furnished, steam-heated, and connected with the city telephone exchange. The mill is a full roller mill, built as such from the foundation, furnished with 132 sets of rollers, cost \$250,000; has a

capacity of 2,000 barrels of flour a day, and is claimed to be not only the largest steam flouring-mill in America but the first full roller mill ever built. Their elevator, constructed in 1881-2, at a cost of \$15,000, is an iron sheeted frame structure 40×72 feet on the ground, rising 100 feet to the top of the cupola and has a storage capacity of 150,000 bushels. Wheat is received from their own elevators and warehouses, along the line of the Winona & St. Peter railway and its branches. Of these they have twelve, purchasing only for milling purposes. Grain shipments eastward are the exception and not the rule, and confined solely to such car lots as are unfit for manufacturing fine grade flour. Shipments of produce are made by river to all lower Mississippi ports, as far down as New Orleans. Shipments by rail are to the principal eastern markets of the United States, and to the Atlantic seaports for European export, principally to the British Islands. This immense industry, the growth of less than three years, furnished direct employment to a force of seventy-five workmen, and is a most valuable integer in the sum total of Winona's manufacturing and commercial enterprise.

L. R. Brooks, president of the milling company, is a native of New York. He came to Minnesota twenty-six years since, and was engaged in grain trade and banking previous to the organization of the company over whose affairs he presides. Since 1874 he has been a resident of this city, and for the five years prior to 1879 was cashier of the Second National Bank of Winona. He was the first treasurer of the board of trade and a member of its directory. He is also a member of the firm of Brooks Brothers, who do a general grain and lumber business, Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul and the St. Paul & Manitoba railways. A Master Mason in good standing, he is a member of Winona Chapter, No. 5, and Cœur de Lion Commandery, No. 3.

A. G. Mowbray is a native of England. He came to America in 1856; settled first in Ohio and removed from that state to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1861; was engaged in milling in that city three years, then went to Minneapolis, remaining until 1867, when he bought the flouring-mill in Stockton, this county, which he ran until he came to this city in 1874 to engage in milling operations with S. C. Porter. The Stockton mill was the first gradual-reduction mill (so far as known) ever operated in America, having been so conducted since 1872. The same process was carried on in the Porter & Mowbray mill, and on the organization of the Winona

Milling Company in 1879 that mill was made a full roller-mill, the burrs being dispensed with entirely. The credit of the organization of the Winona Mill Co. properly belongs to Mr. Mowbray, who in 1879 broached the subject to some Winona capitalists, by whom, in connection with himself, the organization was speedily consummated. Mr. Mowbray was married in 1864, has three children in the public schools of this city, one daughter at school in Evanston, Illinois. He is a member of the Winona board of trade and a frater of the A. F. and A. M.

The engine-room is in charge of L. A. Pennoyer, assisted by his two sons, George and Fred, who take watch and watch about. There are two other children, L. A., Jr., who is second miller, and a younger child in the city schools. Mr. L. A. Pennoyer is a native of New York, a machinist by trade, and before coming to Winona in 1874 was engaged in erecting engines for the Jackson foundry and machine shops, Jackson, Michigan. He came to this state in their employ, and visited Winona to overlook the engines of the L. C. Porter Milling Co., erected by the Jackson firm. While here he accepted the position of engineer with L. C. Porter Co., and was with that firm until he came to his present responsible position upon the erection of the Winona mill in 1879. Mr. Pennoyer is a member of Prairie Lodge, No. 7, I.O.O.F., and also of the Royal Arcanum beneficiary. He has one child at school in this city.

*Winona Wagon Company.*—This industry, organized in 1879, though yet in its infancy, justly ranks among the most important manufacturing enterprises of the city. During the three years of its operations it has more than doubled its capital, its capacity, its force of operatives and its manufactured product. As virtual successor to the Rushford Wagon Company, of Rushford, Minnesota, it was organized as a Winona county industry, October 11, 1879, with a paid up capital stock of \$45,000. The original corporators were nearly ninety in number, and the management of the company's affairs was entrusted to a directory of nine. The original officers who still compose the official board (with the exception of the general manager, whose office was vacated by death) are: O. B. Gould, president; A. J. Stevens, general manager; John Albertson, superintendent; J. C. Blake, secretary and treasurer. January 22, 1881, the capital stock was increased to \$100,000, and since that time no new shares have been issued; all transfers of stock being to holders as preferred purchasers. By this means the number of stockholders



has been gradually decreased, until it is now less than one-half that of the original incorporators. In the spring of 1880 the company sustained a severe loss in the death of their general manager, A. J. Stevens, who died in April of that year. H. M. Kinney, elected his successor, still retains that office and successfully administers the affairs of the company. The present board of directors are O. B. Gould, I. B. Cummings, R. D. Cone, John Kendall, Thomas Wilson, W. A. Scott, H. M. Kinney, Henry Stevens, John Albertson. The works of the company are located upon a tract of eleven and one-half acres of land, just west of the city limits, at the intersection of the Chicago & Northwestern railway with the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul. No more perfect shipping facilities could be desired than are here obtained, as the works lie within the forks formed by the lines of both railways, whose tracks traverse the grounds in every desirable direction; including, as well as those already mentioned, the Winona & St. Peter and the Green Bay, Winona & St. Paul railways. Here, in 1879, the company broke ground and erected their buildings, consisting of a main manufactory,  $40 \times 120$  feet, two stories high; a blacksmith shop and a paint shop, each  $40 \times 70$  feet, and a warehouse  $40 \times 60$  feet. At this time the number of operatives was thirty, and 983 wagons were manufactured during the first year. In 1880-81 additions were made to the original structure, enlarging their capacity at least fifty per cent and swelling the amount of flooring-room in sheds and temporary structures to over 30,000 square feet. The enterprise proved a marked financial success from the beginning, and in 1882 it was determined to erect larger and more substantial buildings, to meet the growing demands of trade. These new works, just completed, are: a two-story manufactory,  $54 \times 182$  feet; a blacksmith shop,  $67 \times 90$  feet; an engine and boiler house,  $36 \times 37$ , with a smokestack rising 62 feet above the ground level. These buildings are all of brick, with good stone foundations, rendered as nearly fireproof as solid walls, iron roofs, and iron doors and shutters in all exposed situations can render them. The main manufactory has a fire-wall running from foundation to ridge, dividing it into two sections diminishing the danger from fire by just one-half. The blacksmith shop has a slanting truss roof, and has neither part nor dividing wall to impede operations. The engine-room is supplied with a new engine of 125 horsepower, displacing the old one of one-fifth that capacity, and furnishing ample power for driving their machinery. The buildings are

heated by steam, furnished with a steam elevator, and in all respects fully equipped for economical and efficient work. The number of operatives has steadily increased from thirty to one hundred, and the annual product from less than 1,000 to over 3,000 wagons, while the working capacity is double that amount. Wisconsin supplies their oak, Indiana and Michigan the ash and hickory timber. The product of this manufactory is marketed in twenty-four states and territories principally lying west of the ninety-second meridian.

H. M. Kinney is a native of Wisconsin, a machinist by trade, and was nine years in the employ of Fish Bros. & Co., wagon manufacturers, Janesville, during which time, as their agent, he visited all parts of the United States and formed an extensive acquaintance with its wagon trade. April 25, 1880, he resigned his place with that house to accept the business management of the Winona Wagon Company. He has extended the trade of his company until it embraces twenty-four states and territories, principally lying west of the eightieth meridian. He has a pleasant home on the North side, Washburn street, two doors west of Winona.

James C. Blake, secretary and treasurer of the company, was born at Winsted, Connecticut, July 12, 1849; was educated in the common schools and in the Winchester Institute of his native city, and was for seven years in the mercantile house of M. and C. J. Camp & Co., of that place, prior to coming to Winona in 1871. In 1872 Mr. Blake formed a partnership with E. F. Curtis, under the firm name of Curtis & Blake, wholesale and retail grocers, in which business he continued until he sold out to Mr. Curtis in 1876. He then became a member of the Winona Carriage Joint Stock Company, and was actively connected with its interests until the business was wound up in 1879, at which time he purchased the shops of the company, now rented to Lalor, McKay & Co. Concluding that Winona was a good point for a first-class wagon manufactory, Mr. Blake interested himself in the organization of such an industry, and when the Winona Wagon Company was successfully launched, the same year, he became its secretary and treasurer.

*Winona Plow Company.*—This young industry, which already gives evidence of a healthy and permanent growth, was only organized February 10, 1882, and has not yet closed its first year's operations. The authorized capital stock of the company is \$100,000; paid up capital, \$25,000. The original incorporators were J. M. Bell, F. S. Bell, J. K. Palmer and D. S. Kerr. Of

these, J. M. Bell is president and treasurer; J. K. Palmer, vice-president and superintendent, and D. S. Kerr, secretary. Messrs. Palmer and Kerr are practical mechanics, and before coming to Winona were engaged in manufacturing at Waukegan, Illinois. The property of the company consists of three and a-half acres of ground on the north side of Fifth street, adjoining the Winona Wagon Company's lands on the east. Their shipping facilities are first-class, as their property is crossed by either the main or spur tracks of Chicago & Northwestern and the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railways. Their buildings are, a main shop 40×120 feet, with a side extension 25×80 feet; a warehouse and office 30×80 feet, and a paint shop 28×40 feet. The business consists in the manufacture of wooden and steel beam plows, both walking and sulky harrows, cultivators of all kinds, road scrapers and garden wheelbarrows. The business gives employment to a force of from twenty to twenty-five hands, and the manufactured product of the first year will be about \$20,000. An engine of twenty-five horse power supplies motor for the machinery, as also the pipes of the steam heating apparatus.

J. M. Bell, president and principal stockholder of the Winona Plow Company, is a native of Perry, Genesee county, New York, where he was born September 28, 1830. His business life has been spent in mercantile and banking operations, this being his first venture in manufacturing enterprises. From New York Mr. Bell removed to Iowa in 1857, locating in the central part of the state; was treasurer of Hamilton county four years and organized the merchants National Bank, of Fort Dodge, Webster county, of which he was cashier six years. After a short sojourn in Illinois, Mr. Bell removed to Winona in 1878; became cashier of the Merchants National Bank of this city and held that office until the bank became a state institution, when he severed his connection with it, and soon afterward embarked in his present enterprise.

R. K. Palmer is a native of Ontario, born at Brockville in 1844; came to the United States in 1848 with his parents, who settled at Waukegan, Illinois, and still reside upon the homestead they took up thirty-four years since. R. K. Palmer learned his trade as a plowmaker with J. H. Ward, of Oshkosh, and was in business in Waukegan fifteen years before his removal to Winona in 1881. During the years 1863-64 he was in the employ of the United States government, having charge of the military repair and

wagon shops at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in which a force of 300 hands was employed, principally contrabands. After carefully examining the ground and comparing advantages Mr. Palmer concluded to remove his business from Waukegan, Illinois, to this city, and the move was accordingly made; a joint stock company formed, buildings erected and operations commenced in the spring of 1882. His oldest son "Fred," educated to business in his father's shop, is one of the employes of the firm, closely following his father's steps.

*Vienna Mining Company*; principal office at Winona. This is a joint stock company organized by consolidation of pre-existing companies March 17, 1882, with an authorized capital of \$15,000,000, of which \$10,500,000 is paid up, the balance in treasury stock. Officers of the company: C. L. Colman, La Crosse, Wisconsin, president; C. H. Berry, vice-president; B. H. Langley, secretary; H. J. O'Neill, treasurer. Operations are conducted in the Saw-tooth silver district of Idaho. Over 1,500 feet of tunneling has been done, and although operations have so far been conducted without reference to ore product, mainly for clearing tunnels and drifts, a large quantity of ore is already out and in sight. The company employ a force of 200 hands; have constructed roads to the mines; built boarding houses for their men, and other permanent structures, and have just completed a stamp mill costing \$160,000, having a stamp capacity of twenty-five tons daily, with power and shafting for double that product. Their expenditures are now \$20,000 per month, and the aggregate outlay has been about a quarter of a million dollars.

*Winona Building and Loan Association*.—The Winona Building and Loan Association, incorporated July 6, 1882, as a saving and loan institution in which all depositors and borrowers are stockholders, and all profits apportioned to stock, gives every promise of a most successful continuance. The authorized capital stock is \$500,000, in shares of \$200 each. Within thirty days from the date of issue 1,000 shares were taken, and an additional 500 within the next three months. The association is pre-eminently mutual, there are no preferred stockholders, and to the small capitalist it affords superior facilities for loaning and borrowing money on the most advantageous terms. Its organization is too recent to determine anything definitely concerning its operations other than that afforded by the rapid placing of its stock. The officers of the association are: O. B. Gould, president; J. B. McGaughey, vice-



president ; C. A. Morey, secretary ; W. C. Brown, treasurer ; A. H. Snow, attorney.

*Gate City Carriage Company.*—This joint stock manufacturing establishment was organized as such November 15, 1882, with a paid up cash capital of \$25,000, and is but the enlargement and continuation under more favorable financial conditions of the business so successfully conducted by Messrs. Davis, Sawyer and Mead, as the Gate City Carriage Works. These gentlemen are practical mechanics, who, four years ago, almost without one dollar of capital, commenced business as a co-operative association, in a small wooden building on the alley in the block just north of their present location. Commencing business November 15, 1878, just four years prior to the organization of the stock company, in that time they had so increased their operations and created capital, that they owned a ten years' unincumbered lease of a real estate of 60×150 feet on Fourth street just east of Center, the entire lot under cover, and two commodious sheds for storing stock on rented property in their vicinity. At this time they were employing a force of nineteen men, almost exclusively in the manufacture of fine carriages and repairs. Their reputation for first-class work and fair dealing had created a demand for their work greater than they could possibly supply. This was notably the case with their "buckboard," a business wagon of their own design, especially adapted to the wants of the western trade, the demand for which has been such that at times during the past season they could only supply samples where carload orders were sent in. Rapid as had been their accumulation of capital and the increase of business facilities, these could not keep pace with the growing demands of trade, enlarging year by year with the rapidly increasing population and business of the northwest. In the summer of 1882 the necessity of increased capital was very sensibly felt, and after due deliberation they decided to organize their business into a joint stock company, and this was formally effected as above noted on November 15 of that year, with the following board of directors : W. K. F. Vila, E. S. Davis, O. B. Gould, H. H. Smith, E. S. Mead, F. W. Robinson and F. P. Sawyer. The officers of the company are : E. S. Davis, president ; E. S. Mead, general manager ; F. P. Sawyer, superintendent ; H. H. Smith, secretary and treasurer. Within one week from the date of organization the company broke ground for their additions to the present works, by which, with

the motor and machinery introduced, the number of employes will be materially added to and the capacity of the manufactory increased at least 33½ per cent. There is no doubt that a few years will see this company permanently established in quarters of which they will hold the title in fee simple, with buildings and machinery adequate to supply the demands of a trade of which at present they have themselves but a very meager conception.

E. S. Davis, president of the company, is a native of Westboro, Massachusetts. He learned his trade as a carriage woodworker in the manufactory of Coan & Ten Broeck, Chicago, and coming to Winona in 1868, was in the employ of the Winona Carriage Works until associating himself in business with Messrs. Sawyer & Mead. Mr. Davis is married, has five children, three are in school. He is a member of Winona Lodge, No. 18, A. F. and A. M.

E. S. Mead, general manager, is a native of New York city, and came to this city with his parents in 1855; his father having settled here in 1853. He learned his trade as a carriage trimmer in the carriage shops of Grant & Lalor, of this city, and on the establishment of the Gate City Carriage Works in 1878, became the business head of that co-operative industry. Married, has three children, two of them in the schools of this city. Wife died October 21, 1882.

F. P. Sawyer, superintendent, is a carriage blacksmith by trade, which he learned in the shops of C. P. Kimball, of Chicago. He is a native of Portland, Maine; came to Winona in 1878, and had worked for a short time in the Winona carriage works, with his old associates there, before he entered into the little co-operative association which has so rapidly developed into what promises to be one of the best paying industries of the city.

H. H. Smith, secretary and treasurer, is a native of this city, born in 1858, and lacked one term of completing his course in the high school here when he left his classes to accept a situation in the shoe-house of Cummings & Vila, with whom he remained eight years, only leaving to accept his present responsible position at the desk of the new carriage company.

*Winona Machinery Company.*—This industry was organized as a joint stock company, November 15, 1882, with a paid up cash capital of \$50,000. The business will consist of general machinery manufacture and repairs, and their piston packing and asbestos bearing for journals, for which they hold patents. The manufactory is

at present located in temporary quarters under the "Tribune" office on Third street, where they occupy a room 21×80 feet. At this writing, April 1, their machinery is being put in place. The officers of the company are: President, C. O. Goss; secretary, W. E. Smith; general manager and original patentee of the piston and asbestos bearing patents, G. W. Williams.

*Winona Carriage Works.*—Lalor, McKay & Co., southwest corner of Third and Washington streets. This business was founded in 1865, by Grant & Lalor, and so continued until 1874, when the affairs of the firm were wound up. Mr. Grant retired and the business was taken up by a joint stock company, who conducted it until 1878, when they ceased manufacturing to dispose of the stock on hand. In the spring of 1880 Messrs. Lalor & McKay, who had been connected with the manufactory almost since its establishment in 1865, the former as partner, the latter as foreman, took a five years' lease of the premises and have conducted the business with most gratifying results until the present. The property fronts 60 feet on Third street, 180 feet on Washington street, and has upon it a two-story manufactory 40×180 feet. They do quite an extensive business in the manufacture and repair of fine carriages, employing a force of twenty workmen, including the members of the firm, who are all skillful mechanics. Sales and repairs for 1881 aggregated \$9,321.18; for 1882, \$15,682.89; sales a little over eighty-five per cent of the sum total. The members of the firm are J. W. Lalor, George McKay and Milton Lalor.

J. W. Lalor, the senior member of the firm, was born in Rutland county, New York. In 1847 he went to Chicago, where he learned his trade, carriage-maker and woodworkman, and was for many years foreman of the extensive carriage and wagon works of Coan & Tenbroeck, of that city, before coming to Winona in 1867, and commencing business under the firm name of Grant & Lalor. Naturally possessed of a mathematical mind and a love of mechanical instruction, Mr. Lalor has paid considerable attention to carriage architecture, both as a science and an art, and this, taken with his thirty years' experience as a practical workman, has given him the mastery of his craft. The eldest son, Milton Lalor, is a member of the firm.

George McKay was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1843, and came to America with his parents when four years of age. They settled in London, Ontario, where George was educated and served his apprenticeship as a carriage blacksmith in the well-known manu-

factory of Mc Bride. From London he came to Winona in 1866 ; just after the establishment of the Winona Carriage Works, by Grant & Lalor, he assumed charge of their blacksmith shop, and was continued in that responsible position by the management of the joint stock concern until their operations were discontinued ; then in 1880, in company with J. W. Lalor, leased the premises and continued the business as partner he had so successfully supervised as foreman.

Business increasing beyond the capacity of the firm, with its then capital, to profitably enlarge, a regular incorporated joint stock company was formed on February 12, 1883, under the name of Winona Carriage Company. The purpose of the company is to engage solely in the manufacture of fine carriage work. The paid up cash capital of the concern is \$25,000, with the following efficient board of officers : President, J. J. Randall ; secretary, W. F. Phelps ; treasurer, C. H. Porter ; manager, George McKay ; superintendent, J. W. Lalor. The work of the company has been put upon a new footing since the change above noted, and operations doubled.

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## CHAPTER XLVI.

### MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

THE manufacturing industries of Winona, which have nearly doubled their volume since January 1, 1879, may be said to date from the fall of 1855, at which time Messrs. James Wyckoff and James Hiland erected a small sawmill, not far from the present site of the Winona Mill Company's flouring-mill. As nearly as can now be ascertained, this first lumber-mill was started for business December 17, 1855, and ceased operations after the season of 1860 closed. In the early part of 1856 Mr. Wyckoff sold out his interest to Messrs. L. C. Porter and Wm. Garlock. January 1, 1857, Mr. Hiland disposed of his interest to S. D. Van Gorder, and the firm as thus constituted conducted business until the opening of the 1861 sawing season, when the mill was accidentally burned. In the meantime two new lumber-mills had been started, both in the fall of 1857, and within a very short period of each other, both now doing



business under substantially the same management as that of twenty-five years ago, and both of them grow, through successive changes in buildings and machinery, to the very front rank of lumber manufactories in the northwest. The winter of 1880-81 saw a worthy rival of these long established lumber-mills growing into place at the extreme eastern limits of the city, and in the spring of 1881 this mill, that of the Winona Lumber Company, began manufacturing.

LAIRD, NORTON & Co., manufacturers and dealers in plain and dressed lumber, lath, shingles and carpenters' material. This company, the oldest lumber firm now doing business in the city, though not strictly speaking the pioneer sawmill men of Winona, have been in successful operation as lumber manufacturers for over a quarter of a century, their sawmill having been erected twenty-five years ago last spring, while their first lumber-yard was opened in May, 1855, two years earlier. This yard was on the present site of the L. C. Porter milling company's mill, and was opened by Messrs. J. C., M. J. and W. H. Laird, the latter the head of the present firm, the others having long ceased all connection with its operations. The firm became Laird, Norton & Co. in the fall of 1856, by the admission of Messrs. J. L. and M. G. Norton, and the following spring ground was broken for their sawmill upon their present location, and building energetically pushed until it was completed, and the saws set running in September of that year. This lumber mill was 50×70 feet, furnished with one muley and one small circular saw, and having a daily capacity of 20,000 feet of lumber. Their original property fronted 300 feet on the river, running eastward from Kansas street. This frontage has been increased from time to time, until they now own a frontage of 1,500 feet on the river, running eastward from Franklin street, and extending an average width of two blocks backward from the river. Additions were made to this mill, and improvements introduced from time to time, until 1869, at which date two large double rotary saws were added, the daily capacity being increased to 75,000 feet, with a corresponding amount of shingles and lath. The old engines were still in use, and in the fall of 1870 the boilers exploded, and the whole were replaced by engines and boilers of about double the former capacity. Operations continued in the old mill, with its enlargements, until the close of the sawing season of 1877, when the old structure, which had been doing duty for twenty years, was taken down and the present mill built.

This change did not include the boiler-house, which was left standing, but furnished with additional engines and boilers, increasing its capacity to present estimate, 600 horse power. The new mill is ironclad with iron roof,  $190 \times 60$  feet, 30 feet posts, with an addition  $40 \times 50$  feet of equal height with the main building, and a brick boiler-house  $26 \times 80$  feet. The capacity of the new mill, as demonstrated by actual work, is 234,000 feet per day, with an average product of 175,000 feet; the shingle-mill can turn out 150,000 daily, and averages 120,000; the lath-mill product about 33,000. The mill is furnished with two gangs, one forty inches wide, the other thirty-six inches, iron gangs of the most improved make; two double rotaries, steam feed, besides the saws for cutting, slitting, edging, etc. At the time this mill was built, it was the best sawmill on the Mississippi river; and even now, after all the changes of the past five years, it is much to be questioned whether, all things taken into consideration, it has any superior. For economy of space, smoothness of work, facility for handling logs and discharging lumber, and amount of cut, it stands A 1 in all lumbering circles.

The planing-mill, built in 1868, one-half of its present size, to which it was enlarged in 1882, is a two-story frame,  $70 \times 140$  feet, 24 feet posts; the manufactory for sash, door, blind, frames, mouldings, etc., occupying the upper story. The boiler and shavings room is  $68 \times 28$ , the whole machinery driven by engines of 300 horse power. This mill is furnished with two Wood's planers and matchers, besides double surfacers and resawing machine, and has a capacity of 75,000 feet of dressed lumber daily. The manufactured product of the upper story reaches a weekly average of 500 doors, 1,000 sash, 500 frames, besides blinds, mouldings, brackets, etc. There are four dry kilns on the premises, Curran & Wolff's patent, each  $17 \times 72$  feet, having an aggregate capacity of 30,000 feet a day. To man these mills, and do the necessary work of the yards, requires a force of 300 hands and 20 teams, notwithstanding labor is largely economized by piling the bulk of the mill product from tramways. The mills are thoroughly protected from fire, the mains of the city water-works traversing their yards from east to west. In addition to this, the firm have expended nearly \$20,000 in private water-works, and from these two sources they have forty hydrants in their yards, with 1,500 feet of hose on carts ready for use. They have also attached hose on each floor of both saw and planing-mills. They have also a most conveniently arranged office,

30×48, steam heated, with fire-proof vaults, private offices, telephone attachment, and all the conveniences of a first-class office. They boom their logs at Beef Slough, and rafts are brought down, as required by their own boat, the Julia. The firm are members of the Beef Slough Booming Company, the Mississippi River and the Chippewa River Logging Companies. They also own large tracts of private pine lands in the Chippewa valley, from which some supplies are drawn. Their lumber is marketed generally in the west and northwestern states, the bulk of it distributed along the lines of the Winona & St. Peter railway and its branches and tributaries. The present members of the firm are W. H. Laird, James L. and Matthew G. Norton.

W. H. Laird is a native of Pennsylvania, from which state he came to Winona in 1855 to engage in the lumber trade, and has been actively operating in that industry for over twenty-seven years. He is president of the Winona board of trade, a member of the Congregational church, married, and has a wife and three daughters — one married and residing in the city, one at home and one attending the state normal school in this city.

James L. Norton is also a native Pennsylvanian, and was a railroad contractor before coming to Winona in 1856, the same year he became a member of the present firm. His family consists of a wife and four children, all of whom are graduates of the Winona high school, and two of them recent graduates of the Northwestern University at Evanston. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Matthew Norton came to this city at the same time as his brother, entered the Laird & Norton firm at the same time, is a member of the same church and has the same number of children, all of whom are now attending normal school in the city. Matthew G. Norton is a member and director of the board of trade.

John Durham, foreman of sash, door and blind factory, is a native of Pennsylvania, a carpenter by trade, and came to this city with the Messrs. Laird in 1855. He has been more or less in the employ of the firm ever since their establishment in this city, and when not so engaged has been following his original trade as carpenter. When the manufacture of sash, doors and blinds was commenced in 1868, Mr. Durham was employed in that department, and six years later, 1874, became foreman of the manufactory. Mr. Durham is married, has one child, temporarily absent from school

on account of her health. He is a member of the A.L.H. beneficiary and an officer of the Congregational church, having been elected deacon in 1880.

Timothy Burns, engineer of the planing-mill, entered the employ of the firm May 1, 1858, the day after he arrived in Winona, and has been in their employ ever since; first as day laborer, then as fireman, and for some years past as engineer. He is a native of Ireland, and had been in this country eleven years before coming to Winona.

YOUMANS BROS. & HODGINS, manufacturers and dealers in lumber, shingles, lath, sash, doors, blinds, etc. This business was established in 1857 by E. S. & A. B. Youmans, under the firm name of Youmans Bros. The contract for their mill was let in April of that year, the foundations were laid the following month and sawing commenced the ensuing October. This mill, which stood substantially upon the same site as the one they now operate, at the foot of Grand street, was about 40×80 feet, and was furnished with one muley saw, the capacity of the mill being about 30,000 feet of lumber a week. In 1859 a small circular saw was put in, increasing the capacity to about 15,000 a day. In 1860 a shingle-mill, with a daily capacity of 15,000 shingles, was added, and two years later a large rotary by which the lumber cut was increased to 30,000 a day. This mill was operated until 1870, when it was taken down and the present one erected. The main mill as then constructed, and now standing, is 50×180 feet, iron roof, with an addition for shingle-mill 28×60; one engine and boiler-house 40×45 feet and an engine-room 18×50 feet, the aggregate capacity of the engines being about 350-horse power. This mill is furnished with one 42-inch gang saw, two double rotary saws, two shingle-mills and one lath-mill. The average daily cut of the mill for the sawing season is 140,000 feet of lumber, 90,000 shingles and 30,000 lath. The company's property, held in fee simple, fronts 150 feet on the river and extends south ward to Fifth street, having a width on Second street of two blocks and a half. Through leases from the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company they control a river front of 1,500 feet additional. Their booming facilities are not surpassed by any lumber-mill on the river. They boom a slough ten miles long, with good ingress for logs at its upper end, the lower terminating at the mill. In 1870 their planing-mill was built, and the following year Mr. A. F. Hodgins became a member of the firm. The planing-mill is a two



story frame, and, as originally built, was 60×80 feet, the upper story used for the manufacture of sash, doors, blinds, frames, mouldings and carpenters' materials generally. This present season (1882) this mill was enlarged to double its former capacity, and is now 60×160 feet, furnished with four planers, some of Fay & Co's patent, others of S. A. Wood & Co's design, the whole having a capacity of 75,000 feet of dressed lumber daily. There are also on the premises four dry kilns, Curran & Wolff's pattern, with an aggregate capacity of 40,000 feet daily. The work of the sash, door and blind factory is almost exclusively upon specific orders, the daily product in such work being less and the prices higher than for the usual stock work. Connected with the planing-mill is the brick engine and boiler house and shavings room. There is also a two-story warehouse, 60×90 feet, for storing manufactured work, glass, nails, building paper, etc., and ample shed-room for dressed lumber. The pay-rolls of the company show a force of 275 men and eighteen teams constantly employed. The firm organized as a joint stock company in 1876 with a paid up cash capital of \$250,000, absorbing the stock within themselves. The company are members of the Chippewa River and the Mississippi River logging companies, and also Beef Slough Boom Company. Their supply of logs is mainly from the Chippewa river, but some strings are received from the St. Croix valley. Lumber is marketed principally along the lines of the Chicago & Northwestern railway in Minnesota, Dakota, Iowa and Nebraska. Excellent precautions have been taken against fire. Their own private mains are laid through the yards, pressure for which is supplied direct from their own pumps, which, in connection with those of Laird, Norton & Co., have hitherto supplied the city mains. Fifteen hydrants within their own yards and 600 feet of hose on carts ready for use, give ample security against fire, from which in the twenty-five years of their operations here they have been absolutely free. The present stockholders of the company are E. S. Youmans, A. B. Youmans and A. F. Hodgins.

E. S. Youmans is a native of New York, and had become somewhat familiar with sawing operations in a small way in his father's lumber mill before coming to Winona in 1857. Mr. Youmans is married and has two children: one daughter married and residing in Connecticut; one son, employed in the office of the company.

A. B. Youmans, also a native of New York, came to Winona at the same time as his brother, and like him has given his attention

strictly to business. He is married and has two children: one married, who is one of the engineers of the company; and one now attending the city schools.

A. F. Hodgins was born in Tennessee. Came from Galena, Illinois, to Winona in 1856, as agent for Carson & Rand, lumbermen. Was here in their interest some years, when, in company with H. Eaton, he bought them out and continued the business through several firm changes until 1871, when he became a member of the firm of Youmans Brother & Hodgins. He is married and has one child, a daughter, now attending the State Normal School in this city.

James King, foreman of sash, door and blind factory and carpenter's department, is a native of Pennsylvania. Learned his trade as carpenter at Pittsburgh, in that state, and came to Winona in 1879. He was one year in the employ of Conrad Bohn, and then entered the service of the firm of Youmans Bros. & Hodgins, working for them one year in the little factory attached to the sawmill, then superintended the construction of the planing-mill and sash factory in 1875, assuming charge of the manufacturing department upon its completion. He is married; has two children in school, and is a member of the A.O.U.W. fraternity.

B. S. Batchelor, foreman of the planing-mill, is a native of Michigan, and has followed his present business fifteen years, ten of them in the employ of the company with whom he is now engaged. Mr. Batchelor has been an inhabitant of the state since 1856, and a resident of the city since 1871. He is a married man and has two children in the city schools.

W. L. Raymond, engineer and machinist, with Youmans Bros. & Hodgins, is a native of New York. Came to Winona with his parents when three years of age, and has been a permanent resident since his ninth year, a period of eighteen years. He learned his trade with W. M. Hurbert, of this city, with whom he remained nine years, six of them in charge of the shop, before coming to his present position in 1881.

Wm. Rogers, engineer in the Youmans & Hodgins mill, has become of age in their employ, having been on duty with them for twenty-one years. He is a native of Cayuga, New York. Came to Winona in 1858, and was in the old planing-mill of Porter, Garlock & Co., before assuming charge of the engine in this lumber-mill. He is married, owns a pleasant residence on Grand street, and has one

child now in attendance in the public schools. He is a member of the A.O.U.W. fraternity, of this city.

**WINONA LUMBER COMPANY.**—This industry, one of the most important in the city, was organized as an individual enterprise, October 1, 1880, by Andrew Hamilton, who at that time owned a tract of land quite in the eastern part of the city, fronting 930 feet on the river and extending southward to Front street. Upon this property, during the winter of 1880–1, Mr. Hamilton erected his mill, E. White, as millwright, having supervision of its construction. This mill is 60×196 feet, with an addition 40×50 feet, and is provided with one 46-inch gang saw and two rotaries. The engine and boiler room is 36×84 feet, furnished with engines of 680 horsepower, which will be increased to 1,000 horse-power before the sawing season of 1883 opens. The capacity of the mill, as tested by one day's actual cut, is 221,000 feet per day; the average daily product 50,000 feet less than that amount. The shingle-mill has a capacity of 160,000, with an average product of three-fourths that amount. Lath, about 30,000 daily.

May 1, 1881, this individual enterprise of Mr. Hamilton's was converted into a joint stock company, with a paid up capital stock of \$250,000. The officers of the company are: Andrew Hamilton, president; W. H. Laird, vice-president; Wm. Hayes, secretary and treasurer. Since incorporation the company have acquired additional lands from time to time, until they now (October 1, 1882) own a river front of about 2,500 feet, extending backward from the river a width of from one to three blocks. In the fall of 1881 ground was broken for a planing-mill on the southeast block of this property. The foundations were laid in November of that year and planing operations begun March 1, 1882. This mill is 70×116 feet, 28 feet posts, with an engine, boiler and shavings room, of brick, 50×70 feet. The planing-mill is run by a Corliss engine of 150 horsepower, and has a capacity of 60,000 feet of dressed lumber daily. The kilns for drying lumber are 36×84 feet, and have a capacity of 120,000 feet. The number of hands employed in the saw and planing mills is about 125, with an equal number at work in the yards, the pay-rolls of the company showing a grand total of 275 men and twenty-six teams. Preparations are now making to start a sash, door and blind factory in the upper story of the planing-mill, and operations will commence some time next month (November, 1882). This branch of their business will give employment to an

additional force of from twenty to twenty-five hands. Their log supplies are drawn from the Chippewa river and its tributaries. Shipping facilities are good, the open tracks of the Chicago & Northwestern railway traversing their yards from east to west. The great bulk of their lumber finds its market in Minnesota, Dakota, Nebraska and Iowa.

The pipes of the city waterworks are laid through their yards, and there are nine hydrants upon their premises. These, with the attached hose in both mills, afford excellent protection from fires.

Andrew Hamilton, president of the Winona Lumber Company, is a native of Armagh, Ulster county, Ireland, from which place he came to America in 1846, and ten years later to Winona. In 1860 he formed a partnership with Charles Horton in the lumber business, which they conducted jointly until 1880. For the past ten years Mr. Hamilton has been quite extensively engaged in stock raising, and now owns a tract of 1,200 acres, just east of Sugar-loaf Bluff, upon which he has a flock of 1,000 merino sheep, seventy-five head of Jersey and grade cattle, from fifteen to twenty head of horses and 100 hogs. From nothing in 1856 to so considerable a financial and commercial standing in 1882 is its own comment upon Andrew Hamilton's business capacity.

Wm. Hayes, secretary of the Winona Lumber Company, is a native of Pennsylvania, and for seven years prior to coming to Winona in 1881 was at Beef Slough, in connection with the Mississippi River Logging Company.

E. White, millwright for the Winona Lumber Company, is a native of New York, learned his trade as a millwright in northern Ohio and came to Winona in 1857. With the exception of five years, from 1861 to 1866, when engaged as purchasing agent for the Winona & St. Peter Railway Construction Company, Mr. White has followed his trade. When Mr. Hamilton commenced constructing his mill in 1880 Mr. White was engaged as millwright, and upon its completion assumed charge, and the later buildings of the company have all been built under his supervision. Mr. White is married, has two children, one in attendance at the city schools. He is a member of the A. O. U. W., of this city.

R. H. D. Morrison, engineer of the planing-mill of the Winona Lumber Company, is as proud of his Corliss pet as a grandmother of her first grandchild. He was born an engineer and bred a farmer, coming from Vermont, his native state, to Houston county,



Minnesota, in 1859. From 1866 to 1876 was in the farm machinery business, the last three years of that time dealing in portable engines. From 1877 to 1879, inclusive, was engineer in the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul elevator in this city, and then took charge of the Corliss engine in the Empire Lumber Company, which he retained until assuming his present place in March, 1882, when the planing-mill was started. He is a Master Mason, member of Winona Lodge, No. 18. Married and has two children. One in business college, one in the normal school.

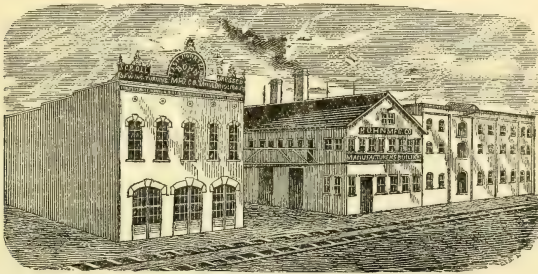
EMPIRE LUMBER COMPANY.—This is a joint stock company, organized under the laws of Wisconsin, in 1881, and has a capital stock of \$800,000. The officers of the company are: President, D. H. Ingraham, of Eau Claire, Wisconsin; vice-president, D. M. Dulany, Hannibal, Missouri; secretary, Charles Horton, Winona, Minnesota. The business of the company consists in manufacturing and dealing in lumber. Their mills are at Eau Claire, Wis., and Dubuque, Ia. Yards at Winona, Minn., Dubuque, Ia., and Hannibal, Mo. The Winona business at present is confined to dealing in lumber and the manufacture of dressed lumber, sash, doors, blinds, frames and carpenters' materials. The company's premises at this place front 1,200 feet on the river running eastward that distance from Vine street and extend from the river to First street. Here they have erected a planing-mill 60 × 80, an engine-house 24 × 50, a sash, door and blind manufactory 42 × 100, and a store-room 64 × 150. The engine-room is supplied with a Reynolds Corliss engine of 75-horse power, the planing-mill with two matchers, surfacers, resawing machines, moulders, etc., and has a capacity of 40,000 a day. The business is mainly contract work, but little being manufactured for the general market. The drykiln has a capacity of 10,000 feet a day, and the product is all used in the shop. Employés during the summer season number about 140.

Charles Horton, secretary of the company, and manager of its interests at this point, is a native of New York; came to Winona in 1856, and has been in lumber business here since that date, first in connection with L. C. Porter, and afterward with Alexander Hamilton, with whom he was in partnership as a lumber dealer from 1860–80. Mr. Horton is married and has five children, four of them in attendance at the city schools.

G. R. Adams, foreman of the manufacturing department of the Empire Lumber Company, is a native of Rome, New York, and learned his trade in the sash, door and blind factory of H. S. Crosby

& Co., in that city. He came to Winona in 1866, and was for eleven years foreman in the factory of Conrad Bohn before coming to his present position with the Empire company, which he did upon the completion of their sash, door and blind factory. Mr. Adams is married and has two children, one in the Winona high school. He is also a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and connected with the A. O. U. D. and A. L. H. beneficiary associations.

CONRAD BOHN, manufacturer of sash, doors, blinds, mouldings and dressed lumber. This house affords another example of Winona's growth in industrial enterprise, showing how, from small beginnings, mammoth enterprises have been successfully built up and a constantly increasing volume of business secured. Mr. Bohn came to Winona in 1857, very early in the history of the now thriv-



BOHN MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

ing city, and established business as a carpenter and builder. In 1866 he started a small planing-mill on the corner of Main and Sanborn streets; principally for the preparation of builders' material, and conducted operations there until 1873, when he removed to his present location at the corner of Front and Laird streets. His property lies principally between Front street and the river on both sides of Laird street. It has a frontage of 400 feet on Front street, of 300 feet on the river. Here, in 1873-4, Mr. Bohn erected a two-story and a-half frame manufactory  $50 \times 100$  feet, and a brick engine and boiler house  $45 \times 60$  feet. These buildings were burned in 1875, and immediately replaced by others, the new manufactory being ten feet wider than the old one. The following year, 1876, a two-story warehouse,  $50 \times 120$  feet, was built. This building is used solely for storing and glazing, and is connected with the main manufactory

by an elevated gangway. In 1880 a three-story addition, 40×80 feet, was built to the main manufactory; and in 1882 the old engines of seventy-five horse power were removed and engines of double that capacity substituted. In addition to the buildings here enumerated are the drying kilns which have a capacity of 8,000 feet of lumber a day, and sheds and temporary structures covering an area of several thousand square feet. Some conception of the operations of the manufactory may be gained from a statement of the raw material daily used. From 20,000 to 25,000 feet of lumber are daily manufactured into doors, blinds, sash, etc., besides which they turn out from 20,000 to 30,000 feet of dressed lumber. The regular monthly product of the manufactory is, 4,000 to 4,500 doors, an equal number of glazed sash and from 2,000 to 3,000 pair of blinds, and their working force 125 men, of whom from 40 to 50 are employed in the manufactory. Their principal market is in the northwest, with a smaller demand from the southwest. The premises are well provided with shipping facilities, as the spur tracks of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad extend along their entire front, and cars are loaded and unloaded from their doors. Their office is connected with the City Telephone Exchange, heated with steam, and furnished with all necessary appliances for the conduct of their constantly growing business. In 1880, in connection with Gebhard Bohn and Geo. W. Bohn, his brother and son, Mr. Conrad Bohn started a branch house in St. Paul; a depot of supplies for the immense building demand of that market. This establishment gives steady employment to thirty men and nine teams. September 15, 1882, the business was converted into a joint stock company with a capital stock of \$200,000, one half paid up. The officers of the company are: Conrad Bohn, president; Gebhard Bohn, secretary; Geo. W. Bohn, treasurer. The business of the manufactory had assumed such proportions that in 1882 Mr. Bohn determined to discontinue the business of contracting and building, in which he had been engaged for twenty-five years, and with the expiration of their present contracts his work as builder will be closed out. During the twenty-four years he has followed contracting and building Mr. Bohn has erected some of the notable structures of the state, among which may be mentioned the State Normal School, Winona, and addition to the State Insane Asylum in 1873. With the exception of a partnership with Wilse in 1880-1, Mr. Bohn

conducted business alone until the formation of the stock company last September.

Mr. Bohn was born in Hesse-Cassel, Germany, in 1836 ; came to New York in 1851 ; was in that city five years, following his trade as a carpenter and builder, and in 1856 came to Chicago ; from there one year later to Winona, where he has kept pace with the growth of her industries, himself no inconsiderable factor in the sum total of her prosperity.

STROTH & AHRENS, planing-mill, sash, doors and blinds. This manufacturing establishment is located on the corner of Front and Franklin streets, on a lot 240×140 feet. The business was established in 1866 as Rose & Co., but was virtually the same establishment as at present, although it did not assume its present firm title until two years later. Their buildings are a main manufactory, 50×70 feet, with an addition 22×28 feet, the whole two stories in height and an engine-room 22×45 feet. The engines are of 40 horse-power, and the capacity of the planing-mill from 12,000 to 15,000 feet per day. Business consists in furnishing doors, frames, mouldings, cornice stuff and all carpenters' materials upon contract, as well as manufacturing general stock for which their principal market is Chicago. The manufactory employs a force of thirty-five hands on an average, and business for 1882 was about twenty-five per cent in advance of previous season. The members of the firm are C. F. Schroth & Henry Ahrens.

C. F. Schroth is one of the old residents of Winona, having taken up his residence here in 1856 ; has been engaged in business for himself since he was about sixteen years of age ; is married, has two children in the schools of the city.

NOONAN & STELLWAGEN, contractors and builders, office and manufactory on the northeast corner of Third and Vine streets. This business was originally established by Wm. Rohweder, in 1863, and was conducted by him with some changes in the firm until 1877. John Stellwagen purchased an interest in the business, the firm becoming Rohweder & Stellwagen. The following year Rohweder sold his interest to Wm. Noonan, who had been taking small contracts here for several years, and the firm became Noonan & Stellwagen. Both members of the firm are excellent mechanics, and their business has rapidly increased during the four years they have conducted it, their contracts for the current year aggregating \$100,000. Their manufactory for the preparation of building materials,



is located on Vine street, between Second and Third. It is a two-story frame building, 30×50 feet, with a one-story addition, 18×50 feet, supplied with an engine of twelve-horse power, and fully equipped with such machinery as is required in their business. They own a frontage of 110 feet on Third street and 150 feet on Vine, with a comfortable office, sheds for storage, etc. They employ from fifteen to thirty hands, according to season and press of business. Among their more important constructions are the Winona Mill Company's mill, German Luther schoolhouse, Congregational church interior, plow factory, and have now under contract the German Catholic church, except the stonework, stained-glass windows and interior furniture. Outside of the city they have taken some good contracts, among them the Kasson school building, at a cost of \$14,000.

Wm. Noonan was born in Perth, Ontario, in 1839, learned his trade there, removed to Winona in 1866, and has worked as journeyman carpenter or contractor in this city ever since. Was elected a member of the city council in 1877, and represented his ward during two terms, retiring from office in 1881. Mr. Noonan is a member of the Catholic church, married, has four children, all in attendance upon the public schools of this city.

John Stellwagen is a native of Hesse-Darmstadt, born in 1846, came to America with his parents when an infant, and in 1861 settled with them in Winona county. Learned his trade as a carpenter in Utica township, and in 1875 came to this city. Was foreman for Conrad Bohn when that contractor was erecting the first wing of the old Rochester Inebriate Asylum in 1876. Mr. Stellwagen is a member of the A. F. and A. M. and Druid fraternities, is married, and his children, six in number, are all in attendance upon the city schools.

A. W. GAGE & Co., contractors and builders, manufacturers of sash, doors and blinds. The senior member of this firm is one of Winona's pioneer businessmen, having continuously conducted operations in this city since the fall of 1855, a period of twenty-six years. After following his trade as a carpenter and builder, in this city, for nine years, Mr. Gage built his manufactory for sash, doors, blinds and building material, in the eastern part of the city, on lower Front street, near the present location of the Empire Lumber Company, to which corporation he sold his real estate in that location in the fall of 1882, after conducting business there for eighteen years. The

manufactory at this point was a two-story frame building, 42×76 feet, and the business of the firm employs a force of from fifteen to twenty-five mechanics. Some of the buildings erected by Mr. Gage are veritable landmarks, not only in this city, but in the state. The old Methodist Episcopal church erected by him in 1856, and still doing duty as a place of worship for the Scandinavian Lutheran church, was the pioneer Methodist Episcopal church of the state, and is so noted in the records of that denomination. The old frame courthouse, which all good citizens desire to see replaced by a new one, was built by Mr. Gage, twenty years ago, on the corner of Third and Washington streets. Among the more modern buildings erected by him are the present Methodist Episcopal church, the Episcopal church and the Presbyterian church, all of them substantial brick and stone structures; also the Madison school, the Republican block, Choate's, Mues', Wakefield's, and other business blocks, and many of the finest private dwellings in the city. His building operations outside of the city and county have been quite extensive. Among these may be mentioned the Caledonia jail, reputed one of the finest in the state, costing \$35,000.

The members of the firm are A. W. Gage and Daniel Gage.

A. W. Gage was born in Susquehanna, Pennsylvania, April 26, 1832. Received such an education as the schools of his neighborhood afforded. Learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked during the summer, teaching school in winter, until 1853, when he came to Dubuque, Iowa, where he was foreman in the mill of C. H. Dickinson & Co. until coming to this city in the spring of 1855. Mr. Gage has always devoted his attention to business and declined any official connection with municipal affairs until the spring of 1881, when he was elected alderman of the second ward, and is the present chairman of the waterworks committee; a most important post in view of the erection of the new waterworks building and the completion of the water-supply system of the city. September 6, 1856, A. W. Gage was married to Miss Christie E. Gage. Of their three children, two only are living, Miss M. E. Gage, now teaching in the city schools, and A. John Gage, now in attendance at the normal school. Their eldest son, F. T. Gage, died in this city September 21, 1881, aged twenty-four years.

Daniel Gage is a native of Pennsylvania. Learned his trade in Binghamton, N. Y., and in 1856 came to Minnesota, settling in Belle Plaine, Scott county, from which place he removed to Winona

in 1858. Here he followed his trade, working in town and in the surrounding country until 1864, when he formed a partnership with his cousin, A. W. Gage, which has remained unbroken during a period of eighteen years. The first building erected by the firm was the Presbyterian church, now standing on the corner of Fifth and Main streets. Mr. Daniel Gage is married and has three children in attendance upon the city schools.

SAMUEL D. VAN GORDER, contractor, is a native of Chemung county, New York. At ten years of age he left home to try his luck in the world, and six years later was running a sash, door and blind factory on his own account, at Catharine, in his native state. He was engaged in this business and in canalboat building until he came to Winona, in 1856. That same season, in company with Joel Mallory, he built the first road leading into Winona, a road across the slough from the city to Sugar Loaf Bluff, and also the road over the Stockton Bluffs. In September of that year he went to Chicago, and purchasing machinery for a sash, blind and door factory that same fall, in company with Thomas Simpson and one Evans, commenced manufacturing. The following January the factory was sold out to Hamilton & Robinson, and Mr. Van Gorder bought out James Harlan's interest in the sawmill erected by that gentleman and James Wycoff in the fall and winter of 1855. This business was conducted until the spring of 1861, when differences of opinion concerning the management of affairs arising, it was mutually agreed to receive an order from the court for the sale of the property, which was accordingly done, and the property bought in by Mr. Harlan for Van Gorder, but before business was resumed the mill was accidentally burned. He was then in the lumber trade for eighteen months, when he sold out to Mr. Laird, and took the contract for driving the piles for the elevator and bridges of the Winona & St. Peter railway. In company with Joel and R. P. Mallory, he built all the small bridges along the line of the old transit road as far as Rochester, and graded one mile of its track. In the fall of 1863 he took charge of the lumber, wood and tie supplies of the railroad, holding that position one year. In 1865 he put a ferry-boat upon the river at this point, and there being no eligible landing on the opposite shore, was obliged to land at the old stone house four miles up the river. The first season eleven teams were taken across. This ferry was sold to the city in 1880. In 1869 Mr. Van Gorder opened a stone quarry across the river, and contracted to furnish and ferry

the stone for the railroad bridge over the river at this point. The city having built a road across the Wisconsin bottoms to the bluffs in 1867, he was interested in establishing a stage route into Wisconsin, and providing for its transfer over the river. In company with one, Jenkins, in 1879, he took a government contract of \$20,000 for river improvement. In connection with the waterworks improvements of this year, he laid about 1,800 feet of water-main for the city, and dug the well at the works, fifty-two feet diameter, depth of stone curbing twenty-eight feet. In October, 1882, he contracted with the city to build a road across the Wisconsin bottoms, one and a quarter miles long, bridged and graded above high-water mark. He was chief of city police during the years 1877-78-80-81. Is a member of Winona Lodge, No. 18, A. F. and A. M., of Winona Chapter, No. 5, R. A. M., and of Cœur de Lion Commandery, No. 3. Mr. Van Gorder has never married, but since his fifteenth year has charged himself with the support of his parents and an invalid sister now living with him.

NICHOLAS MONK, contractor for stone and brick work, is a native of Germany, born in 1842. He learned his trade in Holstein, his native place, and came to the United States in 1867, settling in Winona the same year. The stone and brick work of the Postoffice block, the Stevens block, the Wakefield block, the Congregational Church, and the new waterworks building and stand-pipe, are specimens of his mechanical skill. During the building season he employs a considerable force of men, according to the demands of business. His waterworks contract, for building and stand-pipe moving, is \$22,000. Mr. Monk has a wife and two children living, one of the children now in the city schools.

DOUD, SON & Co., manufacturers of flour barrels, central office and main manufactory at Winona, branch manufactories at La Crosse, Wisconsin, and Hokah, Lanesboro and Isenourse, Minnesota. The business of this firm consists in preparing material for flour barrels and manufacturing them, and no better sample of a growing Winona industry could be given than the history of the operations of this firm affords. During the twenty years of their existence here they have grown from a small hand manufactory, employing two or three hands, to a giant industry, working extensive machinery and employing a force of 140 operatives. Business was begun in this city in 1862 by Chauncey Doud, who had previously been engaged in similar business in New York and Illinois. The name of the firm



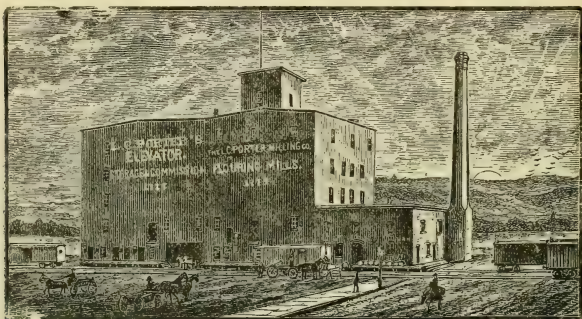
was Doud & Son, the "son" being at that time in charge of operations in Wisconsin. Their first factory was located on Grand street, between Second and Third, and from there was removed to Wilson street, one block east of the original location, in 1864. Here they remained, gradually extending operations until they were burned out, in July, 1880, when a move was made to their present location. When the firm became Doud, Son & Co., in March, 1874, their manufactory had grown to include two shops, each  $22 \times 50$ , in which a force of twenty-five hands was employed, with a product of a little more than 300 barrels a day, no machinery being used. One of these shops was destroyed by fire in 1875, and a new one immediately erected,  $24 \times 100$  feet. In 1878 an addition of 40 feet was made to this building, and machinery put in for champering, leveling, crozing and tressing. By this means their capacity was increased to 800 barrels a day, with an actual product of about four-fifths that amount. When these buildings were destroyed by fire, July 17, 1880, Doud, Son & Co. removed to their present location on the north side of Mark street, just east of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul passenger depot, where they immediately rebuilt and resumed operations. Their property extends along Mark street a distance of 332 feet, runs to the alley in the rear, and fronts the tracks of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, with which they have ample switch connections. Upon these premises, in 1880, they erected a two-story frame manufactory,  $140 \times 28$  feet, and a storehouse,  $100 \times 26$  feet. They also erected, the same year, on ground leased from the railroad company, and along the main track of that corporation, a one-story stockhouse,  $24 \times 100$  feet. In 1881 an addition of 112 feet was made to the manufactory and of 100 feet to the storehouse, making these buildings 252 feet and 200 feet respectively. When the 1881 additions were made the firm duplicated their machinery, and they have now in operation two complete sets, with an aggregate capacity of 2,000 barrels daily, an actual product of 1,500 barrels a day, and a working force of 140 hands. The Messrs. Doud have largely manufactured their own staves from the beginning of their business, but prior to 1876 this work was done where their barrel manufactories were located. Since that date their stave factories have been in the woods. These factories were located at Doudville and Rudolph, in Wood county, Wisconsin; and gave employment to a force of eighty operatives and nine teams prior to the disastrous fire of May 28, 1882, by which

their Doudville factory and store were burned, and a loss of \$40,000 sustained. The location at Doudville was then abandoned and a new factory erected at Pittsville, in the same county. No statistics of the Wisconsin and other Minnesota barrel manufactories are given, these not being legitimately connected with Winona county industries. The product of the Winona manufactory is largely marketed at home; the other along the lines of the Minnesota Southern railroad. The present members of the firm are C. Dowd, R. T. Dowd, C. G. Doud and Geo. S. Doud.

Chauncy Doud, the senior member of the firm, was born in Turin, Lewis county, New York, August 15, 1809; was brought up on a farm, and followed that business from his youth until 1849, when he ceased farming and gave his whole attention to barrel manufacturing, a business in which he had been more or less engaged for some years. Leaving New York in 1837, Mr. Doud removed to St. Clair county, Michigan, farmed it five years, then located in Oswego, Kendall county, Illinois, where he was engaged in farming from 1842 to 1849, at which time he removed to Lockport, Will county, in the same state, and established his barrel manufactory, an industry he has now constantly followed for thirty-three years. March 7, 1834, Chauncey Doud married Sarah C. Comstock, of Philadelphia, Jefferson county, New York, with whom he has now been living almost a full half-century. They have six children: two sons, members of the firm of Doud, Son & Co., and four daughters, three of them married, and residing out of the state, and one unmarried, residing at home.

THE L. C. PORTER MILLING COMPANY was organized under the firm name of Porter & Mowbray in 1874, and so continued until 1879, when L. C. Porter bought out the interest of Mr. Mowbray and continued the business under the name it now bears. The property occupied by this industry extends along the river front eastward from Market street 430 feet, and runs southward one block and a half. Upon this property, in 1874, their mill was erected, a five-story frame building, 70×40 feet, provided with nine run of stone and having a capacity of 250 barrels of flour a day. Their engine and boiler house was a two-story brick, 36×70, built the same year. Three years later they built their elevator, 50×70 feet and sixty feet in height, having a capacity of 50,000 bushels. This was increased in 1882 to 90,000 bushels storage, and a handling capacity of 5,000 bushels per day. The capacity of the mill was increased from time to

time until in 1881 it had attained a capacity of 500 barrels a day, using both rollers and burrs. The mill was then completely remodeled, the number of rollers increased to twenty-two and the capacity enlarged to 600 barrels. The reduction is done on rollers, the pulverizing of the middlings on burrs, of which there are five run. The capacity of the engines in the mill are rated 300 horse-power, the elevator is supplied with a separate engine of 25 horse-power. Grain is supplied from their own warehouses and elevators along the line of the Winona & St. Peter railway. Of these they have now in operation about twenty, and will double that number next season. Of the grain thus received from points westward as far as the Dakota grain fields, only the choicest samples are used for milling purposes, the



THE L. C. PORTER MILLING COMPANY.

inferior grades being shipped to the eastern market. They also handle great quantities of salt and coal through their western warehouses. Shipments of flour are principally to the eastern home market and to the ports of Great Britain and Ireland. Sawdust is used exclusively for fuel, and their mill was the first one employing steam power exclusively in the state, such power being deemed too costly for profitable employment. The various departments of their business are officered as follows: O. L. Marfield, in charge of wheat department; W. H. Sims, head miller; F. A. Coons, chief engineer. The whole force of the mill is about sixty hands.

For a personal sketch of Mr. L. C. Porter, see First National Bank.

F. A. Coones, chief engineer of the Porter Milling Company, is a native of Ontario, Canada; learned his trade as a machinist in St.

Louis and came to this city in 1866. Was in the shops of the Phenix Iron Works two years, the engineer for Youmans Bros. & Hodgins one year, then in the same position for Laird, Morton & Co. eight years, at the expiration of which time he entered the service of the Porter Milling Company. Mr. Coones is married and has one child. He is a member of Prairie Lodge, No. 7, I.O.O.F., and also a stockholder in the Winona Building Association.

O. L. Marfield, superintendent of grain department of the Porter Milling Company, is a native of Ohio; was bred a miller at Chillicothe, in that state, and conducted milling business there on his own account from 1860 until he came to Minnesota for his health in August, 1881, and assumed charge of the wheat department of this house.

W. H. Sims, head miller of the Porter Milling Company, is a native of England; followed the trade of miller, to which he was bred, for twelve years in his native country before coming to Winona in 1866. Was in charge of the mill of H. Miller, his brother-in-law, at Minnesota City, in this county, previous to accepting the position of head miller with the L. C. Porter Milling Company in 1879.

N. C. GAULT, manufacturer of Schoonmaker's patent copper lighting cable. This industry is of recent establishment, the letters patent under which the manufacture is conducted bearing date June 28, 1881. These letters patent cover both the idea and process of forming a hollow zinc wire, overlaid with sheet copper, and twisting the same into a continuous flexible cable. The advantages of the cable rod are its superior conducting properties, its unbroken continuation from the point above the standard to its ground termination, its indestructibility, and its absolute flexibility, by means of which it is capable of the most natural adjustment to all surfaces. The portion above the roof is strengthened by the insertion of a solid steel rod in the center chamber of the spiral, which gives abundant security against possible displacement. The manufacture is superintended by the patentee, who has assigned all his right therein to H. D. Morse and N. C. Gault. The manufactory is a two-story frame building on the alley between Second and Third streets, in the rear of the "Tribune" building, 20×70 feet. The manufactory has a present capacity of 5,000 feet of cable per day, with the hand machine now in use, but this capacity will be more than doubled by the introduction of some motor the coming season. Their cable coils are from 250 feet to 500 feet in length, of two sizes, one having



a diameter of nine-sixteenths of an inch, the other of five-eighths of an inch. They also manufacture gold and silver plated points, arrows and vanes, as well as the necessary standards. The manufacture is exclusively for wholesale trade, as the manufacturers are not engaged in putting up rods. Though yet in its infancy, the demand is rapidly extending, and already some fifty firms are handling the rod in the various northwestern states.

The proprietor, N. C. Gault, is a native of New Hampshire, born near Concord, in that state, in 1822; was brought up on the home farm, and followed farming until coming to Winona in April, 1856. He was engaged in the hardware trade here until 1863; closed business, and the following year entered the United States service with the 11th reg. Minn. Inf.; was soon after enlistment elected quartermaster of the regiment, and served with it until it was mustered out. Returning to Winona he was appointed United States gauger for the first congressional district of Minnesota, and served until 1875, during part of which time he was oil inspector under state appointment. Since 1875 was not actively in business until he engaged in his present industry. He is a prominent member of the Baptist church in this city, in which he has held the office of deacon twenty-four years.

James H. Schoonmaker, patentee and superintendent of manufactory, is a native of New York; came to Winona in 1869, and for the past ten years has been engaged in the manufacture of lightning rods, principally the old star rod, Chadwick's patent, for the firm of Morse, Miner & Co.

LAMPRECHT & KAISER, manufacturers of glue, soap, tallow and neatsfoot oil. This business was established in 1880, in its present location, block No. 23, Bauder's addition to the city of Winona. Their buildings are respectively 30×20 feet and 36×80 feet, and they employ an engine of fifteen-horse power in the manufactory. Their weekly product is 1,200 pounds of soap, 2,000 pounds of tallow, 400 pounds of glue, and one-half barrel of neatsfoot oil, to produce which they employ four workmen.

John Lamprecht was born in Prussia in 1843, was bred a machinist, came to America in 1867, and worked at his trade in Chicago until he came to Winona in 1880.

Emil Kaiser was born in Baden, Germany, in 1848; learned the trade of soapmaker in his native country, from which he came to America in 1868. In 1870 he settled in Winona, and conducted

business at the corner of Mark and Huff streets prior to establishing his manufactory in block 23.

**SUGAR LOAF BREWERY,** P. Bub, proprietor. This manufactory was established in its present location in 1862, by Jacob Weisbrod, at which time it had a capacity of about 500 barrels a year. This capacity was increased from time to time until 1872, when about 1,000 barrels a year were manufactured. In this year the old brewery burned, and Peter Bub, who had been Mr. Weisbrod's foreman for two years, purchased the property. This consists of a tract of about seven acres, at the junction of the old Sugar Loaf road, with that skirting the north shore of the lake. Here, in 1872, Mr. Bub erected his brewery, the main structure  $48 \times 52$  feet, three stories in height, with a one-story addition  $24 \times 36$  feet, and two icehouses, respectively,  $60 \times 100$  feet and  $20 \times 80$  feet. This brewery had a capacity of 4,000 barrels a year. In 1882 the whole was remodeled and a new three-story stone building,  $52 \times 70$  feet, added, increasing the capacity of the manufactory to 20,000 barrels, with an actual product of about one-third that amount. The brewery proper as it now stands is a solid three-story stone structure,  $52 \times 118$  feet, and cellars of 2,000 barrels storage capacity. An additional icehouse,  $24 \times 36$ , has also been built; he harvests his own ice crop, keeps a force of ten hands and three teams, at least two-thirds of his product finding a ready market at home.

Mr. Bub was born in Bavaria, in 1842, was bred to the brewer's trade, and at twenty-five years of age came to America, direct to Milwaukee, where he was for three years in the employ of the Best Brewing Company before coming to Winona in 1870. Here he was in the employ of Jacob Weisbrod, as foreman two years, then purchased the property.

**THE REBUILDING AND REPAIRING SHOPS** of the Winona & St. Peter and the Dakota division of the Chicago & Northwestern railway at this point take front rank among the great industries of the city. These shops are located upon a tract of forty acres, owned and occupied by the railway company, situated just within the corporate limits of the city on the west. Upon this property have been erected from time to time the principal machine and other shops of the above-named railway divisions; miles of side-track have been laid for siding cars, repairing same on track and giving ingress and egress to the company's own trains of coal, iron, timber and other supplies. The minor repair shops at Waseca, Sleepy-Eye, Tracy,

Watertown and Huron are only branches from this parent stem, drawing their supplies from this depot, reporting all work done and supplies furnished to these headquarters, upon whose time-rolls they are borne and upon whose pay-rolls they are paid. The seventy-five engineers and firemen along both divisions in like manner report to and are connected with this center, from which emanates the authority controlling 900 miles of track and a working force of 450 mechanics and laborers.

The buildings now standing upon this property are : Machine shop (main building), 175 feet long, sixty-four feet wide, with walls twenty-four feet high ; opening into this building is the shop for boiler repairs, 66×40 feet with eighteen feet walls ; the blacksmith shop, 80×40 feet, with twenty feet walls, in which a steam hammer has just been placed that can strike a ten-ton blow. These buildings are all of brick, solid stone foundations and truss roofs. The rail mill, a frame building 80×40 feet, in which with a 40-inch steel disk they saw cold rails and drill, punch, straighten and saw cold iron. The power for driving the machinery in these four buildings is supplied by an engine of eighty-horse power, stationed in an attached engine and boiler-house, 60×40 feet. The roundhouse, also of brick, has stalls for twenty-two engines. The water-tank has a capacity of 90,000 gallons, supplied by pumps for which the engine furnishes motor. Water is distributed through pipes to the several buildings with head sufficient to afford protection in case of fire, and is also utilized for washing engines. The clerks' office, 24×40, is a neat wooden building just between the main machine shop and the main track of the road which traverses the yard from east to west. These buildings are all on the south side of the main track, as are also the coal and sand houses. The house for Blossburg coal, used in blacksmith shop, is 20×60, eighteen feet high, with a lean-to for charcoal ; the soft coal house is 100×46 with twenty-foot posts, and the sandhouse 40×60 with eighteen-foot posts.

Upon the north side of the track are the main car shop, a two-story frame building 150 feet long and 80 feet wide, with a brick engine and boiler room on the northwest, 20×20, with iron roof, furnished with engines of forty-horse power. This car shop contains all the machinery for woodwork, the paint shop and the upholsterer's room. A second car shop, 40×120, with a lean-to for castings for car department, 20×60 ; a storeroom, 60×40, two stories for casting and supplies for machinery department and an oilhouse,

16×36, complete the buildings on north side of track, and, with the exception of the bridge shop, concludes the catalogue of the buildings at this point.

The office of the master mechanic is in the main machine shop, where with his telegraph operator at his elbow he has direct communication with every station along the lines of his double division. The number of men in the employ of the company at this point are : Machine shop, 50 ; boiler shop, 18 ; blacksmith shop, 24 ; rail mill, 16 ; roundhouse, 40 ; tin and coppersmiths, 5 ; carpenters and truckmen in main car shop, 25 ; laborers, 8 ; painters, 4 ; upholsterers, 1 ; car repairers on track and oilers, 15 ; engineers for stationary engines, 2 ; coal and wood men, 10 ; storeroom keepers, 3 ; a clerical force of 4 and 1 telegraph operator.

W. A. Scott, master mechanic, is a native of New York, and has been in the employ of the company for twenty-four years, gradually working his way up. In 1867 he was appointed foreman of the machine shops of the company at Belle Plaine, Iowa, prior to which time he had been a locomotive engineer of six years' standing and three years' shop experience. Was there nine years, then transferred to Kendall, Wisconsin, from which place, after one year's service, he was assigned to duty as foreman of the shops at Harvard, Illinois ; remained there eighteen months, when he was appointed master mechanic of these divisions and removed to Winona in 1878. Mr. Scott was made a Master Mason in 1862, a Royal Arch Mason in 1863, and took the commandery degrees in 1864. He has held many positions of honor in the fraternity. Was grand treasurer of the grand chapter of Iowa in 1874 ; eminent commander of St. Bernard Commandery, Belle Plaine, Iowa, from 1872-5 ; generalissimo of Woodstock Commandery, Illinois, in 1876 ; captain-general of Cœur de Lion Commandery in this city in 1881, and its most eminent commander in 1882 ; is a member and director of the board of trade, Winona Mill Company, Winona Wagon Company and the Winona Silver Mining Company ; is married, and has one child.

G. W. Williams, general foreman of the locomotive department of the Chicago & Northwestern railway shops at this point, was assigned to that position January 1, 1878, and has been in the employ of the company the greater part of the time since 1864. Mr. Williams is a native of New York ; served an apprenticeship of three years at his trade as a machinist in the shops of the Delaware & Lackawanna railroad at Scranton, Pennsylvania ; entered the service of the



New York & Erie road at Susquehanna and Port Jervis, and was in their employ four years, when he came to Chicago and entered the service of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad in 1864. He came from the Chicago shops to assume charge of his department here in 1878. As an inventor, Mr. Williams has achieved success. In 1882 he took out letters patent for his "Piston-packing Adjuster." This invention consists of a volute or spiral spring so mechanically connected that it will adjust the packing as it wears and balance the piston in the cylinder. This invention has been sufficiently tested to prove its value as a force economizer. Its introduction in the Evartt's flouring-mill at Waseca enabled them to turn out twenty barrels of flour additional in each day's run. August 1, 1881, Mr. Williams took out letters patent for an invention destined in the opinion of competent judges to supersede all other journal bearings. This is the "Asbestos bearing," designed to prevent journals from running hot, as it sustains a heat of 1,800 degrees before burning. It consists of an asbestos filling compressed into a metal cylinder under a pressure of thirty tons, forming a cartridge of about one inch diameter. These cartridges are inserted into holes drilled in the bearing surfaces of boxes and journals and left flush, not only giving absolute security against hot journals, but greatly reducing the cost of lubrication, as the soapy nature of the asbestos constitutes it an excellent lubricator in itself. The bearing has already been introduced into Youmans Bros. & Hodgins and Laird, Norton & Co's sawmills in this city; into Troost's flouring-mill at Minnesota City, and ran 386 miles on the tender of a passenger engine over the Chicago & Northwestern railway without one drop of lubrication, giving no sign of overheating. It is a safety bearing, so far as danger from fire through overheated journals is concerned, and an economizer of force and oil, reducing, as it does, the amount of friction and the need of lubrication. Mr. Williams is married and has one child four years of age. He is a member of Winona Lodge, No. 18, A. F. and A. M., and of Winona Chapter, No. 5, R. A. M.

Wm. H. Bennett, foreman of car works, has been in the employ of the company for the greater part of the last twelve years, with headquarters at Winona. He is a native of Maryland, a carpenter by trade, and in 1869 came west to Chicago, thence the same season to La Crosse, and finally to Winona. Has been in charge of car department since May 1, 1879. Mr. Bennett is a member of

Winona Lodge, No. 18, A. F. and A. M., and of Winona Chapter, No. 5, R. A. M. Married and has one child in school in this city.

John McNally, foreman of the blacksmith shop, has been in the employ of the company since 1875, and since August 1, 1878, has been foreman in these shops. He learned his trade in the shops of the Cumberland and Pennsylvania railroad, in Maryland, and was with that company seven years; then from 1871 to 1875 was at work in Pittsburgh and St. Louis.

ENGINEERS' DEPARTMENT Chicago & Northwestern railway, for all divisions west of Mississippi river in Minnesota and Dakota, headquarters in depot building, Winona. John E. Blunt, chief engineer. This department has charge of all maintenance of ways and erection of buildings for the company within the territory above specified. The principal work now in hand is the construction of the Iroquois branch of the Dakota Central, from Iroquois to Callope, a distance of 127 miles. The buildings erected in Winona under the supervision of this department, not included among the shops under the master mechanic's charge, are notably the grain elevator, built under the management of the old transit company. Dimensions 60×450 feet, and the new depot building. This last structure, built during the season of 1880-81, and taken possession of in the spring of the latter year, is a two-story brick, stone foundations and basement, mansard roof, composite architecture, extreme length 150 feet, width 46½ feet. The exterior presents quite an ornate appearance, and the interior is conveniently arranged to meet the purposes of its construction. In it are the general offices of this division, ticket office, waiting-rooms, and depot hotel.

John E. Blunt, chief engineer, is a native of Tennessee. Graduated at Andover, Massachusetts, class of 1847, and from the mechanical school at Newburyport, same state, in the class of 1849. Leaving school, he attached himself to the engineering corps of B. C. Morse, and was with him in the south until 1857, principally in Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama, and was still in the south when the war of 1861-5 broke out. The following year, 1862, came to Chicago, and was in the employ of the old Galena Railroad Company (at that time the Chicago & Galena Union) when that road was absorbed by the Chicago & Northwestern system in 1864. Came, with the absorption of the Galena road, into the employ of the Chicago & Northwestern road, and was connected with the Galena division until he was transferred to Winona in 1878, in charge of the Western depart-

ment. Mr. Blunt is a member of the Congregational church, married, has three children in school in this city, one daughter pursuing her studies at Newburyport, Massachusetts, and one son, a physician, in practice at Clinton, Iowa.

C. C. Puder, assistant engineer, is a native of Portland, Maine, and came to Winona in 1878, when Mr. Blunt assumed charge of the department.

BRIDGE AND BUILDERS' department of Winona & St. Peter division Chicago & Northwestern railway; Alex. Doig, foreman. This department of construction employs a force of from 120 to 220 mechanics and laborers, of whom one-fourth are residents of Winona or tributary to its trade. The principal work of the past three years has been in the Stockton bluffs, where a large amount of labor, money and material has been expended. The accompanying statement will afford some idea of the work of this department within the county limits during the period above specified. Bridge No. 28, constructed in 1880, consists of a solid stone arch of 10 feet; No. 29, which was originally a wooden tressel-bridge 479 feet long, was replaced, in 1880-81, by a riveted iron bridge 85 feet long; No. 21, constructed in 1881 at Stockton water-tank, is a riveted iron bridge, single span of 64 feet; No. 26, originally a wooden tressel-bridge 720 feet long, was replaced, during 1881-82, by a two-span riveted iron bridge with piers and abutments, each span 55 feet in length. The tresselwork of the approaches to this bridge is being solidly filled to make a permanent roadway; No. 27, which was originally a wooden tressel of 732 feet, is being replaced by two 32-foot arches, work not yet completed; No. 30, recently commenced, is to consist of one 32-foot arch. The approaches to these constructions will all be made as substantially as possible, and as rapidly as may be a permanently solid roadbed established.

Mr. Doig, the foreman of this department, is a native of Dundee, Scotland. Came to America in 1856. Learned his trade as a housebuilder in Illinois and Minnesota, and commenced work as a bridge builder the same year that he came to this city, 1865. Was assistant under D. Leary, the first bridge foreman on the road, until Mr. Leary went into the service of the Southern Minnesota road in 1876, when the assistant became foreman. Mr. Leary, so well known to Winona county people, is at present the superintendent of bridges and building on the Canada Pacific road, so that the Winona & St. Peter division of the Chicago & Northwestern may be said to

have furnished bridge brains for two important lines of road besides its own.

S. Sanborn, superintendent of the Winona & St. Peter division of the Chicago & Northwestern railway, extending from Winona to Watertown, with branch; aggregate mileage of track 407 miles. Mr. Sanborn commenced his railroad career in 1856, at the very bottom of the ladder, first as depot employé and then as brakeman on the old Milwaukee & Mississippi railway, now the Prairie du Chien division of the Milwaukee & St. Paul. January 17, 1863, he entered the service of the Chicago & Northwestern road as freight agent. In 1872 was appointed general agent for the road at Milwaukee, and two years later, April, 1874, was assigned to duty as superintendent of the Winona & St. Peter division, with headquarters in this city. He is married and has one child, now in attendance at the State Normal School here.

Wm. P. Cosgrove, chief train-dispatcher Winona & St. Peter division of Chicago & Northwestern railroad, is a native of Michigan and a telegraph operator of twenty-seven years' experience. In 1857 he assumed charge of the first telegraph office opened for commercial purposes in the city of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. In 1858 he took an instrument in the general office of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad at Milwaukee, and was chief train dispatcher there for twelve or fourteen years prior to assuming duties at their headquarters in 1874. He is married and has three children, one of them in attendance at the State Normal and one in private school.

PHENIX IRONWORKS, corner Third and Winona streets; W. M. Hurlbert, proprietor. These works were established in 1866 by Mr. Hurlbert, who, after fifteen years' experience in the machine shops of the Vermont Central railway, came to Winona in 1863 to establish the machine shops of the Winona & St. Peter railways. The Phoenix Works were started on the second block west from that now occupied, on rented ground, and here in September, 1866, Mr. Hurlbert erected his first manufactory, 30×90 feet. This building, destroyed by fire in February, 1867, was replaced the same month by one 30×100 feet, business suffering interruption only for a short period. The lots upon which the manufactory stood not being in the market, in the summer of 1857 Mr. Hurlbert purchased one-half of the block lying between Winona and Huff, on the south side of Third street, along which it fronts 300 feet, having a frontage



of 150 on Winona. To this property Mr. Hurlbert removed his machine shop in 1867; built a two-story wood-shop 30×60 feet and a blacksmith shop 20×30 feet. The foundry, a solid stone structure, 40×65 feet, with iron truss roof, was erected four years later, in 1871. A general machine business is done, both repairing and jobbing, quite an extensive manufacturer of Minnesota seeders conducted and employment given to a force of from twenty-five to fifty hands, according to season. An engine of twenty-five horse-power supplies motor for the machinery, and steam for the heating apparatus. The works are furnished with lathes.

Mr. Hurlbert was born in Walpole, New Hampshire; removed early in life to Northfield, Vermont, and there learned his trade as a machinist in the shops of the Vermont Central railway. Was in charge of their work at that point when he accepted a situation as master-mechanic of the Winona & St. Peter Railway Company, and in that capacity came to Winona in 1863, established their shops and managed them two years, when he resigned his position and soon afterward engaged in his present industry, which he has managed successfully for over sixteen years. In 1867 Mr. Hurlbert patented his Minnesota seeder, which has quite an extensive sale throughout the northwest.

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## CHAPTER XLVII.

### ST. CHARLES TOWNSHIP.

ST. CHARLES is situated in the valley of the Whitewater river, in the county of Winona, on the Winona & St. Peter railroad, twentieth-eight miles west of the city of Winona.

#### GEOLOGICAL FEATURES.

The city of St. Charles is located in a triangular valley, through which, on the north side, flows the Whitewater river. This valley has been formed by the erosion and removal of the original layers down to solid magnesian limestone, and upon the bed of that layer the city is located, while upon every side are displayed the precipitous sides of those ancient layers which have remained protected by their cap of solid flags of Trenton limestone, and have withstood the forces of the destroying elements.

The Trenton limestone, which is the upper layer of rock in the bluffs around, is naturally of a blue color, but when near the surface and affected by light and water they are usually faded.

The lower Trenton formation here has been described by Prof. N. H. Winchell, state geologist, in the following language: "At a quarry near St. Charles, half a mile south of the city, the lowest portion of the Trenton appears as follows, in descending order: No. 1, hard, crystalline, calcareous layers, ringing under the hammer; of a light drab color, without shale; fossiliferous, fifteen feet. No. 2, bluish-green shale, about ten feet. Total, Trenton, twenty-five feet."

These Trenton flags, with the underlying beds of shale, are impervious to moisture, consequently the localities which they underlie are better watered than those of the lower layers, and the margin of this formation is usually marked by springs of water.

Next in the descending order we arrive at the St. Peter sandstone, which is about 100 feet thick, and is an almost pure quartz sand, containing but two-tenths of one per cent of foreign matter, which is alumina with a trace of carbonate of lime, not enough of the latter even to cement its grains. We have here an inexhaustible quantity of white, non-fossiliferous, and almost pure quartz sand, which is easily excavated, and is said to be fairer than the Linn sand used by the Scotch manufacturers of flint glass, and is every way equal to that sand for this purpose. Here it is used only for making common mortar, for which purpose it is well adapted. Says Mr. Hurlbut, in his valuable papers on the geology of southern Minnesota, "The thousands of escarpments of this formation which border the plains in as many convenient places offer in return, for but little labor, the indulgence in every fancy in subterranean architecture, from the cool and spacious dairy vault and brewer's cellar to the Mediæval Rhenish castles supplied with sparkling fountains at will."

Under the above we find a layer of magnesian limestone, which is found at the surface in some localities near the Whitewater river. This, as its name indicates, is not a pure limestone. It contains carbonate of lime with about one equivalent of carbonate of magnesia, with some insoluble silicates and traces of alumina, the largest percent being carbonate of lime. It was formerly believed that because of these impurities it was not adapted to the making of lime, and therefore people built kilns south of this city, where they obtained

the purer carbonate of lime in the Trenton beds. This was a blunder, for, although the magnesian limestone produces a large amount of insoluble cement and does not slack so easily and perfectly as the carbonate of lime, yet it is more economical, as it requires less heat in burning. It also throws out less heat in slacking, and is therefore called 'cool' lime. It is slower in setting, so that from fifteen to twenty bricks can be laid with one spreading of mortar, and a corresponding advantage is gained in plastering. This is a light colored and pretty stone, and, being hard and enduring, it is well adapted for building purposes.

A few miles north of this city is a quarry of magnesian limestone, which is of a light cream color, and homogeneous texture, and when first taken from the quarry is soft. It is easily cut into all desirable forms. It takes a polish and is therefore a marble. It has an abundance of calcareous cement, and hardens by exposure to the air. It is adapted to ornamental work as well as heavy masonry, can be cut into posts, sills, caps, water-tables, etc.

Clay abounds in the vicinity, which, for some years past, has been economized for the manufacture of brick. A few miles from the city are bogs of peat, some of which give promise of yielding a fair burning material, yet they have not been proved by sufficient test.

The quarries of the Trenton system abound in fossils peculiar to that age, many of which have been gathered to enrich the museums of institutions for educational purposes as well as of private collections. There are also boulders which have been transferred here during the past geological ages, among which are granite, agates, silicious limestone, argentines or lamellar calcites, jaspers, etc., some of which are susceptible to a polish and by their hardness are adapted to useful purposes.

#### ORGANIZATION OF THE TOWN.

In 1851 there were no white settlers in this part of the country. The buffalo had disappeared but the deer and the elk still pastured the prairies and sought shelter in the wooded valleys. Abundance of speckled trout played in the crystal waters. By an act of the legislature of the territory of Minnesota, passed February 23, 1853, so much territory as is embraced within the following boundaries, to-wit: Beginning at the southwest corner of T. 105 N., R. 10 W., thence north twenty-four miles to the northwest corner of T. 108 N.,

R. 10 W., thence east to the Mississippi river, thence down said river to the northeast corner of Houston county, thence west to the place of beginning, was established as the county of Winona. The county of Winona is on the eastern and northeastern slope of the State of Minnesota to the Mississippi river. The summit level of the country between Winona City and Mankato is at Rice lake, in the county of Dodge. The streams running easterly and northeasterly from that point are rapid, affording abundance of power for hydraulic purposes. Between these streams there are generally continuous ridges of land which break in grand, lofty and picturesque escarpments on the Mississippi shore. The height of these escarpments are not much below the summit level at Rice lake; the streams, in their rapid course to the Mississippi, seem to have worn down their channels through the solid lime-rock, and through the more friable Silurian to their present depths; hence on the shore of the Mississippi we behold such remarkable features in the landscape. The nearer these streams approach to the river the deeper are the gorges, and it was after much toil and labor that the early pioneer could ascend through these gorges to the elevated prairies above.

After the government survey St. Charles was known as T. 106 N., R. 10 W.

On April 29, 1854, the county commissioners divided the county of Winona into six election precincts. The precinct of Elba, in which was St. Charles, included T. 105 N., R. 8, 9 and 10 W., now Hart, Fremont and Saratoga; T. 106 N., R. 9 and 10 W., now Utica and St. Charles, and T. 107 N., R. 10 W., now Elba. E. Haws, William Davidson and L. H. Springer were appointed judges of election. At this session the county was divided into assessment districts. District No. one, embracing T. 108 N., R. 9 and 10 W., and T. 105, 106 and 107 N., R. 10 W. A. P. Hall was appointed collector. On July 3, 1854, the valuation of personal property in this district was \$11,318.

As the real estate belonged to the government, the improvements on the lands were taxed as personal property. The tax per cent. on the valuation this year was one and thirty-five hundredths per cent.

On May 1, 1854, a resolution was passed by the county commissioners constituting each election precinct a road district, and William Davidson was appointed road supervisor of the Elba district.



On May 19, 1854, school district No. 3 was organized, embracing T. 106 (St. Charles), and the north tier of sections in T. 105, R. 10 W.

In March, 1855, school district No. 5 was organized, consisting of sections 7, 8, 17, 19, (city of St. Charles), 20, 21, 30, and all of section 29 excepting the southeast quarter of T. 106 N., R. 10 W.

The first election in Elba precinct was held in the fall of 1854, at the house of William Davidson. Joseph Mixter and John T. Blair were appointed clerks of the election. Benjamin Langworthy was elected justice of the peace. William Davidson was elected one of the county commissioners.

The early records of Elba precinct while under the territorial government, and before the towns were organized geographically, having been lost, the writer has been under the necessity of supplying the history from the recollection of those who were the early pioneers of the precinct; hence it is not as complete as it might have been if the records could have been examined.

In the fall of 1856 the second election for the Elba precinct was held at the house of James Ball, situated on the premises now known as the "Summit Farm," in the town of St. Charles. At this election L. H. Springer and William Davidson were appointed judges, and Joseph Mixter, clerk. At this election Carter Fuller was elected constable. During this year the republican party in the territory was organized, and pitted against the democracy. C. H. Berry, now of Winona City, and Wm. Ashley Jones, were present at this election to sustain the democratic nominees. W. Thorne, residing near the southern limits of the precinct, came a distance of twelve miles and voted the democratic ticket. L. H. Springer was elected one of the county commissioners.

At the April session of the year 1857 the board of county commissioners organized geographically T. 106, N., of R. 10 W., into a separate precinct, denominated St. Charles precinct; and H. G. Rice, Benjamin Raynold and Wm. P. Wood were appointed judges of election, to be held at the schoolhouse in the village of St. Charles. On May 11, 1858, the first township election for the organized town of St. Charles was held for the purpose of electing town officers. A. G. Murray was elected chairman of the board of supervisors, and Franklin Langworthy and David Balcombe were elected supervisors; Harris Scoville, town clerk; J. F. Remore, assessor; Geo. P. Pratt, collector; Charles Elsbury, overseer of the poor; Geo. P. Pratt and Geo. Bartlett, constables; Harris Scoville and Wm.

McKnight, justices of the peace, and Wm. Hendee, overseer of highways. At this election L. H. Springer, Wm. Davidson and M. Grover acted as judges; John M. Cool, and Charles Brewer, acted as clerks.

Minnesota was admitted as a state into the Union by an act of congress passed May 11, 1858.

#### EARLY PIONEERS.

In the spring of the year 1853, William Davidson pre-empted on Sec. 10, T. 106, N., R. 10 W., upon which he built a log house into which he moved his family. He claims to be and is considered to be the first settler of the town of St. Charles, and entitled to be called "The Old Settler"; though about this time Hiram Hull, one of the famous Minnesota City Company, who emigrated from the city of New York and laid out Minnesota City, thinking that he was locating on the banks of the Mississippi river instead of a big slough; but becoming dissatisfied with that place, left and made a claim on section 12, in the town of St. Charles, upon which he erected a small log dwelling and made some other improvements; but sold out in the fall of 1853, and moved to the east. In the latter part of May, 1853, Lewis H. Springer and family, from the State of Illinois, after a short residence at Winona, moved and settled on section 19, in the now city of St. Charles, and erected a double log house on the south bank of the south branch of the Whitewater river, and near the foot of what is now Whitewater street. The family consisted of himself, his wife Adaline and his daughter Ella. With him also came Benjamin Langworthy and Mrs. Langworthy, the father and mother of Mrs. Springer, and Alonzo and Benjamin Langworthy, Jr. Alonzo and Benjamin, sons of Benjamin Langworthy, made their claims on section 18.

In the same year, and soon after Mr. Springer had settled on his claim, Robert Calhoun and Carter Fuller made their claims on the uplands, south of St. Charles city. James Smith, Mr. Kately and Mr. Russell made their claims and settled in the southeasterly part of the town, in the fall of the same year. About this time Wm. Hause made a claim about a mile northeast of Springer's, upon which he erected a claim shanty. He had formerly made and sold a claim in the now town of Saratoga. No other claim was made in the north part of the town until the year 1855, when David Evans made a claim and erected a small log house about a mile north of

the city of St. Charles. The government surveys of the lands of southern Minnesota were made in the fall of 1853 and the spring of 1854. A. M. Norris, of Dubuque, had the contract for the meridian and township lines, and W. A. Jones had the contract for the subdivision of the lands in this locality, assisted by A. M. Raymond. Some of the first settlers had staked out claims before the subdivisions had been made, and consequently were disappointed in not getting all that which they desired to locate.

In the spring of 1854 Mr. Salisbury settled on the southeast quarter of section 19. John Elsbury about the same time settled on the same section, and Harris Scoville on section 18. During this year Lewis H. Springer erected a small frame store a few rods south of his dwelling-house, and kept a small assortment of dry goods and groceries for the accommodation of the settlers. This was the first mercantile establishment and the first frame building in town. Mr. Springer was appointed postmaster in the spring of 1854, and kept the postoffice in this new building. He subsequently sold his stock of goods to Franklin Langworthy, and Langworthy sold to Hiram Rice. Mr. Rice soon after built a new store opposite where now stands the old Hall's Hotel. The old store which Springer built is now a part of the house occupied by Morgan Thomas. At the time Mr. Springer settled in St. Charles there was no settlement west on this route, and no public-house west of Winona to accommodate emigrants until Mr. Springer, in the spring of 1853, opened his dwelling as a public inn; and many of the early settlers will remember when, after a weary journey from Winona up the steep and rugged windings of the high bluffs that skirt the western side of the valley of the Mississippi, and crossing the prairie where little water was found, famished from hunger and thirst, they arrived at Springer's tavern, where their wants could be supplied.

At the present time not a vestige of Springer's tavern, where in former times so much comfort had been dispersed, now remains, save the old roof of oak shakes and a few logs, on the premises of Miss Sarah Birge, daughter of the late Col. Joseph Birge, used as a shelter for pigs and hens.

In the year 1854 a Mr. Wheeler settled on section 19 in the town, now city of St. Charles, adjoining the county line, upon which he built a log house and in the following year opened the same for a public inn. The skin of a wild cat stuffed with straw and elevated on a pole gave intimation that entertainment for man and beast

could be had. It was popularly known as the "Wild Cat Tavern." This was the second house opened for a public inn of the town. In the summer of 1856 James and Joshua Easton erected the first framed public inn, being the same building now owned and occupied by Henry Hall, situate on Winona street. Mr. Hall made his first location on lands east and adjacent to the platted portion of the city, now owned by Carlos Brewer. In the month of July, 1856, a violent tornado accompanied with rain, thunder and lightning, swept through the village, prostrating large and firmly-rooted trees in its course, taking off the roof of Mr. Hall's house and all the logs above the upper joists and landing them at a distance, and took up over the walls of the house beds, bedding, and furniture, exposing the inmates of the dwelling to the furious blasts, frightening them out of their senses and committing other misdemeanors against the peace and dignity of Mr. Hall and the people of the village.

Hiram Rice succeeded L. H. Springer as postmaster; Joseph Mixter succeeded Mr. Rice; Col. Joseph Birge succeeded Mr. Mixter; M. S. Weeks succeeded Mr. Birge; Simeon Harding succeeded Mr. Weeks, and John Pickert (present postmaster) succeeded Mr. Harding.

In the year 1858, M. H. Gates and H. C. Parrott erected a store building. After the closing of the mercantile business the building was used as a wagon-shop by H. C. Parrott, being the first wagon-shop established in St. Charles, and from which beginning sprang the present large and extensive wagon and sleigh manufacturing establishment of H. C. Parrott & Co. The first blacksmith shop, being a frame building near the southern confines of the original village of St. Charles, was erected by John Elsbury, in the Burr Oak grove, on the premises now owned by B. M. Cravath, near to which Mr. Elsbury built his log house on the precise site where now stands the beautiful mansion erected by S. W. Stone, and now owned by Mr. Cravath. In the blacksmith shop was held the first public dance in St. Charles, at which most of the settlers, young and old, attended.

In 1860 James H. Easton established the first art gallery in St. Charles. Washington Wendell established the first shoe shop, and Isaac Talbot the second. Dr. Wendell, the brother of Washington Wendell, was the first physician that settled in St. Charles.



## CLAIM TROUBLES.

During the year 1854, a land-claim society was organized of which Carter Fuller was appointed chairman and Joseph Wheeland elected secretary. The object of the society was to guarantee to each member the right to claim and hold possession of 320 acres of land, so that each one in taking this amount of land, might secure at least forty acres of timber. This liberal way of appropriating Uncle Sam's land, without his being a party to the affair, soon led to difficulty. Mr. Joseph Wheeland, a member and secretary of the society, had made his claim of 320 acres, upon which he had erected a log house and into which he had moved his family. He subsequently sold a portion of his claim, and then to make out his complement of land floated on to an adjoining piece of timber, claimed under the by-laws of the society by another person. Mr. Wheeland having been protected in his original claim of 320 acres, and being secretary of the society and therefore more sacredly bound to carry out the provisions and by-laws of the society, and having been the first one to violate the rules, the other members determined that he should suffer for it. Some time during the winter of 1854-5, and while Mr. Wheeland was at Winona on business, a party in disguise went to his house, and taking by force his wife and three small children in a sleigh to Carter Fuller's house where they were left (Mr. Fuller being the father of Mrs. Wheeland), then returning to the house and taking out everything that was valuable set the house on fire which was soon burned to ashes. The club gang then went out and cut down all the timber on the land, drew it away, dividing it, as was supposed, among themselves. S. B. Dickson, a resident of St. Charles, says that "he and Henry Woodruff were on their way to Saratoga and had stopped at a private house, when the gang were drawing the timber. The gang apprehending that they were spies, ordered them to go back and threatened to shoot them if they ever appeared in court against them." After the burning of the house, word was immediately sent to Mr. Wheeland, who came home immediately and getting a clue to some of the desperadoes, returned to Winona to get out a warrant for their arrest. In the meantime a large party of the members of the club appeared in the road in front of Mr. Fuller's house, where Mrs. Wheeland then was, and requested admittance into the house. Mr. Fuller apprehending a raid and evil intent had prepared for a vigorous defense. He had

at hand one double-barreled rifle, one single-barreled rifle, one shotgun and a brace of six shooters, all well loaded. He refused them admittance. He stood in his door with rifle in hand and threatened to shoot the first man who would dare to mount the fence to come into his enclosure. A parley ensued—there was a cessation of hostilities. It was finally agreed that three of the party might be admitted to explain the object of the visit. The delegation having said that they had come with no hostile intentions, their errand was a peaceable one, and turning to Mrs. Wheeland asked her, “what amount of money would satisfy her for the damage done in burning the house.” Mrs. Wheeland replied, “All the law will give.” These words had a magic effect upon the party for they soon scattered, and when Mr. Wheeland returned, accompanied with Sheriff Eaton with a warrant for their arrest they were *non est inventus*. Some of these persons, however, were subsequently arrested and brought before Justice Thompson, of Winona, for trial, and Messrs. Dickson and Woodruff, whom the gang had threatened, in case they should appear in court against them, were subpoenaed as witnesses against them, and gave their testimony. It was said that the evidence was conclusive, yet they got clear by some means. S. S. Beman was counsel for the defense. Mr. Dickson states that when he was building his shanty on his claim, he was forbidden to do so, and if he persisted in doing so he was threatened of being shot. He built his shanty, however, but while he was gone to Winona to enter his land his shanty was torn down and the boards taken away and never found. Mr. Dickson further states that at about the first of November, 1855, he was at Winona at the time of the land sales. There was there at that time an old gentleman who had made a claim of a quarter section of land, situate in Saratoga town, and a bona fide settler on the same and entitled to bid it off; another person bid \$1.25 per acre, and cried “settle.” The old gentleman then raised the bid five cents and cried “settle,” upon which one of the club society told him if he did not withdraw his bid, he would put him into the river. The old gentleman refused to do so. The ruffians seized him and were dragging him toward the river when he drew a revolver and shot one of them, wounding him in the thigh. Another man was wounded in the groin. In the affray the old gentleman had his thumb shot off. He was trodden down by the gang and severely injured in the breast. He finally succeeded in getting up and taking refuge in the land office, where the mob tried

to get hold of him, but was prevented by the officers. In about two weeks he died, probably from the injuries received from the mob.

#### PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The first schoolhouse erected in St. Charles was a frame building, in the year 1855, on the west side of Church street. A young lady from Chatfield by the name of Clarissa Mastick, taught the first school. The next person who taught the school was Miss Lucy Bolt, now Mrs. James H. Easton, of Rochester, Minnesota. This schoolhouse was used for all public gatherings, both political and religious. A debating club was formed that year, the meetings being held in the schoolhouse. The old schoolhouse is now occupied as a residence by Wm. Wheeler. A new and more convenient schoolhouse was erected during the year 1863, on the east side of Whitewater street, and a few rods north of Winona street, which was destroyed by fire in 1869, it being then private property, having been sold by the school district.

A special act of the legislature organizing the St. Charles school district was approved February 6, 1867. At the annual school meeting held in March, of the same year, a board of education was elected, consisting of the following persons: John M. Cool, chairman; H. C. Parrott, treasurer; John Pickert, clerk; J. W. Brockett, H. H. Guthrie and S. Y. Hyde. Also at this meeting there was appointed a committee to select a site for a graded school building, and report at some future meeting. A special meeting was called April 10, 1867, when it was voted to issue bonds to the amount of \$10,000, running from one to ten years, with twelve per cent interest, payable annually for the purpose of building a schoolhouse. At this meeting the committee appointed to select a site made their report. The site selected was what was denominated "Birge's Square," between Richland and Church streets, the site of the present school building, containing about two acres of land. The appropriation of \$10,000 not being sufficient to complete the building, a special meeting of the school district was held at the new schoolhouse on January 18, 1868, when the board of education was instructed to issue and negotiate additional bonds of the district to the amount of \$3,000, payable in four years. Subsequently the legislature legalized the action of the board of education. The new building was built of wood, two stories. The first story contained four schoolrooms, and the second story contained

two schoolrooms and one large assembly room. The four lower rooms were furnished, and the St. Charles graded schools commenced on January 16, 1868, with about 150 scholars in attendance. Sylvester Bedal was teacher and superintendent; Lavina Averill, Mary Tomlinson and Julia Bertrand were assistants. In the year 1878 this building was totally destroyed by fire. The fire caught from a tinner's furnace, who was repairing the tin gutters on the roof. The fire occurred a few days before the annual school meeting, at which time arrangements were made for building a new building of brick and stone. The new building was completed in December, 1878. It is a fine two-story and basement structure of red brick trimmed with cut stone and cream colored brick, and cost, unfurnished, about \$12,000. It contains eight commodious, well-lighted and well-ventilated schoolrooms, each with ample cloak rooms. It is in the form of a letter X, thus giving opportunity to be lighted by windows on three sides of each schoolroom. It is heated from furnaces located in the basement. In the High School department a course of study is taught preparatory to admission to the State University. At the present time there are six departments, with as many teachers. The school building and the management of the school is a monument to the energy, intelligence and progressive spirit of the people of St. Charles.

#### MARRIAGES, BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

The first marriage in St. Charles was that of Mr. J. S. Olds and Miss Ellen Aldrich, of Clarksburg, Massachusetts, in the spring of 1856. They were married by Benj. Langworthy, justice of the peace, at the house of L. H. Springer. The next marriage was that of James H. Easton and Miss Lucy Bolt, by H. Thompson, a justice of the peace. This was in the fall of 1856.

The first birth was that of Philip, son of L. H. Springer, in the year 1854. The first death was that of Richard, son of John Elsbury. His death was occasioned by eating the flowers of some wild plant. The next death was that of Hiram Rice, merchant. The place of burial was then on land belonging to Alonzo Langworthy, on the north side of the Whitewater river, long since vacated as a burial place.

#### CIVIL AND CRIMINAL SUITS.

The first civil suit of record under the township organization was brought before Harris Scoville, justice of the peace, in which



Pangburn and Langworthy were plaintiffs, and M. S. Weeks, defendant, June 11, 1858. A jury was called but failed to agree. The parties agreed to submit the case to the justice who found no cause of action. Judgment was rendered against plaintiffs for costs amounting to \$24.92. Sam Cole, attorney for plaintiffs, and Moses W. Fay for defendants.

The first criminal suit of record was the State of Minnesota against Alfred Hawley (now adjutant general of the state), on a charge of an assault and battery upon the body and person of William Coon, March 15, 1860, in which the defendant was discharged.

#### RELIGIOUS HISTORY.

The first sermon delivered in St. Charles was by E. Ely, of the Baptist persuasion, at L. H. Springer's in the month of January, 1854. Mr. Ely now resides at Winona. He was one of the first settlers, and is the historian of Winona city. In August, 1854, the Rev. T. R. Cressey, of the Baptist church, preached at L. H. Springer's and organized a Union Sabbath school, being the first Sabbath school established in St. Charles. From this time to 1857 Father Michael Klepper, a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, who had settled on a farm about four miles north of St. Charles, preached in the schoolhouse and formed the first Methodist class in this town. During this time preachers of other denominations occasionally preached at St. Charles and vicinity. A. M. Page, an adventist, occasionally preached. Union Sabbath schools were usually kept up during the summer seasons.

On April 18, 1855, the Rev. David Brooks, of the Methodist church, preached at the house of L. H. Springer, being the first sermon of that order delivered in St. Charles.

In the fall of 1856, Father Klepper formed the first class of the Methodist Episcopal church in St. Charles, composed of the following named members: George C. Sheeks, Mrs. Sheeks, Samson Sheeks, Lucinda Sheeks, Eliza Sheeks, Wm. Cunningham, Joseph Drake, Mrs. Drake, Nelson Wilson, Mary Wilson, Michael Klepper, Mrs. Rebecca Klepper, Martha Ann Klepper, Marietta Klepper, Wm. Hendee, Mary Hendee, Calvin Hitt, Mrs. Hitt, N. D. Mason and Mrs. Mason. The Minnesota conference was set off from the Wisconsin conference in the year 1856. The first quarterly meeting of the St. Charles circuit of the Methodist Episcopal church was held at the schoolhouse in St. Charles, on September 19, 1857. At this

meeting the Rev. D. Cobb presided. The society has a church building and parsonage in this city.

The Baptist church of St. Charles was organized in the year 1859 by the Rev. D. L. Babcock. A meeting was convened for that purpose at the schoolhouse in St. Charles, on March 3, 1859, and was called to order by appointing Rev. H. B. Slater moderator, and J. W. Denton clerk, *pro tem*. The following named persons became identified with the organization: Simpson Smith, Elizabeth Smith, Ebenezer Growt, Rhoda Growt, Emily Growt, Morris James, Catharine James, Ward Smith and Justus W. Denton. The declaration of faith and church covenant, as published by the Baptist convention of New Hampshire, was adopted as their rule of faith and covenant. In 1865 a church edifice was built at a cost of about \$3,000. On February 26, 1859, according to public notice previously given, the following-named persons assembled in the schoolhouse in St. Charles, for the purpose of organizing a Congregational church, viz: Hatsel Brewer, Daniel M. Evans, Palmer Carpenter, Isaac Hanks, Alonzo Rowley, John Davidson, Robert Robertson, Polly Brewer, Sarah Evans and Martha Carpenter. Rev. David Burt was chosen moderator. Henry Balcombe was elected scribe. It was then resolved that the above-named persons organize themselves into a church to be called the First Congregational Church of Christ at St. Charles, by adopting the articles of faith and covenant which were then and there presented. The articles of faith and covenant having been adopted, the church was duly constituted and organized. Hatsel Brewer and D. M. Evans were elected deacons. Hatsel Brewer was also elected clerk. A church edifice was constructed, being the first one built in St. Charles, which recently was sold to the German Evangelical society, an organization of recent date in this city. The Congregational society have now a church edifice of more architectural beauty than the original one. Their first church building was erected in 1859, without a spire.

The first services of the Episcopal church were celebrated by the Right Rev. Bishop Whipple, in the spring of 1864, and the next in December of the same year. In the forepart of January, 1865, Rev. J. H. Waterbury commenced holding regular services in the schoolhouse on each alternate Sabbath. At a meeting of the friends of the Episcopal church, held January 27, 1868, for the purpose of organizing Trinity Church, the following proceedings

were had : The Rev. John W. Shatzell, missionary in charge, took the chair, and Robert Stewart was chosen secretary. The following persons were elected wardens and vestrymen : Senior warden, Robert Stewart ; junior warden, David Harris ; vestrymen, H. C. Parrott, J. W. Brockett, Charles Wardner, Joshua Martin, George H. Clark, Albert Stansbury, Robert H. Cutter, Albert Richardson, Joseph Birge and S. W. Stone. The church being duly organized, services were held every alternate Sabbath, in Templar's hall. Subsequently a handsome church edifice was erected on St. Charles street.

A Roman Catholic church was organized in the year 1867, by Father Latte. In the year 1868, a stone edifice was erected, and dedicated in the fall of 1874, by Father Cotter, of Winona. The first services of the Roman Catholic church held in St. Charles were held at the residence of Patrick Donohue, in the year 1861 or 1862. Patrick Donohue, Joseph Wegeman and Father Latte were the first ones to organize the church.

#### SECRET SOCIETIES.

On February 15, 1864, the Grand Lodge of Minnesota granted a dispensation creating Rising Sun Lodge, U. D., of A. F. and A. M., designating Robert Stewart, W. M. ; Benjamin Birge, S. W. ; Geo. H. Clark, J. W. The charter members were Robert Stewart, Benj. Birge, Geo. H. Clark, Farnum Chickering, Joseph Birge, Geo. H. Brown, Wm. Cravey, Lauren L. Chamberlain, John Curtis and Charles Griswold. The first communication was held February 25, 1864. The next year a charter was granted under the name of Rising Sun Lodge, No. 49. Subsequently Orient Chapter, R. A. M., was organized. At present there are, in the city of St. Charles, organizations of Odd-Fellows, Knights of Honor, Royal Arcanum, United Workmen, and temperance lodges, and also a grange of the Patrons of Husbandry. The masonic fraternity in 1880 built a handsome lodge-room, with a large banquet hall connected with the lodge-room by folding doors, a commodious reception-room and other necessary rooms.

#### THE WAR OF THE REBELLION.

St. Charles responded nobly to the call of the country for its quota of troops to sustain the Union in the war of the rebellion, and the names of those boys in blue who, Cincinnatus like, left the plow in the furrow and rallied in defense of the flag of their country, de-

serve not only honorable mention in the history of St. Charles, but a place in the heart of every liberty-loving patriot.

The following are the names of the soldiers of the war of the rebellion of 1861, credited to the town of St. Charles :

Bertrand, Isaac C.....	7th regiment.	Barker, Henry.....	7th regiment.
Barton, Allison.....	7th "	Colder, Alex.....	7th "
Bartlett, Alfred.....	7th "	Coolidge, David.....	7th "
Brewer, Charles.....	7th "	Bothrick, Andrew.....	7th "
Brown, Wm. G.....	9th "	Stage, Henry.....	7th "
Boyd, Robt. H.....	6th "	Otis, Stephen.....	7th "
Clark, Malcolm.....	7th "	Stone, Hialmer H.....	7th "
Carpenter, A. P.....	1st "	Miller, John N.....	7th "
Davidson, Thos.....	7th "	Parks, Wm. D.....	7th "
Dawley, R. L.....	2d battery.	Butterfield, David J...	7th "
Elsbury, Geo. H.....	7th regiment.	Latimer, Peter D.....	7th "
Fuller, Carter.....	2d battery.	Reed, Orrin S.....	7th "
Fuller, Judson W.....	7th regiment.	Smith, Albert.....	7th "
Fuller, Albert N.....	7th "	Hewitt, Edward.....	7th "
Growt, Orrin.....	7th "	Hill, Chauncey I.....	9th "
Growt, A. W.....	7th "	Harvey, Joseph E.....	9th "
Garver, Geo. S.....	2d battery.	Craig, John L.....	9th "
Hartley, Thomas.....	7th regiment.	Chamberlain, Joel D...	9th "
Huddleston, Thos.....	1st battery.	Carrieff, Geo. B.....	9th "
Hawley, A. C.....	3d cavalry.	Lawton, Michael W...	9th "
Jenkins, Geo. O.....	9th regiment.	Murray, Warren.....	9th "
Lowden, S.....	2d battery.	Spencer, Anson.....	9th "
Morton, Thos. S.....	9th "	Stout, Johnson A.....	9th "
Pickle, Alonzo N.....	1st "	Christianson, A.....	9th "
Remore, Elijah.....	1st regiment.	Hall, Geo. W.....	7th "
Robinson, Martin.....	7th "	Boyd, Robt. K.....	11th "
Raymond, Lyman.....	9th "	Downing, John L.....	11th "
Richardson, Geo.....	7th "	Sweet, Hiram F.....	11th "
Smith, John C.....	2d "	Cook, Geo.....	11th "
Talbert, Thos. F....	6th "	Ellis, Henry C.....	11th "
Thomas, Morgan J....	7th "	Stewart, Charles C....	1st infantry.
Wilmot, Edwin D....	7th "	Boyd, Isaac D.....	1st "
Wiltse, Abram.....	9th "	Bourdon, Peter.....	1st "
King, James.....		Denton, Marion G....	1st "
Johnson, Joseph P....	2d cavalry.	Harvey, Geo. K.....	1st "
Brewer, Ira C.....	2d "	Sweet, Albert.....	4th "
Smith, Calvin.....	2d "	Zrachte, August.....	4th "
Kimber, Wm. H.....	2d battery.	Ketyckback, Benj.....	4th "
Barklay, Wm. H.....	5th Iowa cav.	Johnson, Ben, United States engineers.	
Barklay, Hugh.....	5th " "	Griswold, Charles, 1st heavy artillery.	
Eves, Charles E.....	7th regiment.	Morton, Richard, substitute.	
Woodworth, John R...	7th "		

Many of the above-named persons were residents of towns adjoining St. Charles, but were accredited to the town of St. Charles in consequence of bounty received from the said town, the town at one time paying as high as \$300 bounty to fill its quota of soldiers called for by the government. Besides the above, T. D. Weeks and S. C. McElhaney, of St. Charles, enlisted in Col. Birge's regiment of sharpshooters. This regiment was raised at Benton Bar-



racks, near St. Louis, Missouri, in the fall of 1861, under the patronage and special favor of Gen. Fremont, who intended to make of it a model sharpshooting regiment, and one that would represent the whole West. With this view, recruiting officers were appointed in nearly all the Western states, to recruit for Birge's sharpshooters. Two companies were raised in Ohio, three in Illinois, one in Michigan, and three were organized at the barracks from squads sent by recruiting officers from Iowa, Minnesota and other Western states, thus forming a regiment different from any other in this, that it represented every state in the west.

In the spring of 1864 it was contemplated to raise a battalion, to be called the First Battalion of Minnesota Volunteers; but not succeeding at the time in raising the requisite number, the following-named persons from St. Charles enlisted into the 8th Iowa Cav., to wit, S. A. Johnson, G. H. Johnson, C. H. Taylor, Robert Butcher, John C. Strain, John Bourdon and David James, who were mustered into service at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, in May, 1864.

#### MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE.

The names of those persons who have been members of the legislature from St. Charles are as follows: S. S. Beman, senator, session of 1857-8; Manly Grover, representative, session of 1857-8; Ebenezer Warner, representative, session of 1861; Thomas P. Dixon, of Saratoga, now a resident of St. Charles, representative, session of 1864; Charles Griswold, representative, session of 1865; H. W. Hill, representative, session of 1868; S. Y. Hyde, representative, session of 1869; John M. Cool, representative, session of 1870; John M. Cool and S. Y. Hyde, representatives, session of 1871; S. S. Beman, senator, and John L. Blair, representative, session of 1872; S. S. Beman, senator, session of 1873; S. S. Beman, senator, session of 1874; H. W. Hill, senator, session of 1875; H. W. Hill, senator, session of 1876; J. F. Remore, senator, session of 1877; J. F. Remore, senator, and F. C. Robinson, representative, session of 1878; H. W. Hill, senator, session of 1879. The constitution of the state was amended providing for biennial sessions of the legislature. S. S. Beman, senator, session of 1881; H. W. Hill, present representative for the session of 1883.

*St. Charles Methodist Church.*—This church was organized in 1857, the class being formed by Rev. M. Klepper in St. Charles, consisting of twenty-three members. The first quarterly meeting of

which there is any record was held September 19, 1857, when the following board of trustees was elected: Joseph Drake, A. D. Porter, G. C. Sheeks, William Hendee, N. E. Mason, Calvin Hitt and Samuel Latta. The first Sabbath school was organized in 1858. The date is not recorded. There were at this time forty-nine members. In April, 1858, B. B. Crist was appointed to this circuit. In 1859 Rev. J. Cowden became pastor. At this time the holding of the annual conference was changed from spring to fall. In the fall of 1859 Rev. J. M. Gossard became pastor, with C. G. Hayes as assistant. The estimating committee's report for 1859-60 is as follows:

Supplies to pastor, groceries and household .....	\$160.00
Quarterly claim .....	200.00
To Rev. Mr. Hayes .....	160.00
To Rev. Mr. Gossard.....	40.00
Total .....	\$560.00

The above is a perfect copy of the report. The first quarterly meeting for the years 1859-60 was held at St. Charles December 31. There was nothing of importance occurred during the years 1860-61. At the annual conference in the fall of 1861 the circuit was changed from Whitewater to St. Charles, and Rev. Alfred Welch became pastor. In the third quarterly minutes we learn that there were seven schools, with fifty officers and teachers, and eight hundred scholars. From 1862 to 1865 Charles Griswold was pastor. During the years 1863-4 lots were purchased and a parsonage built. In 1865 H. Webb was pastor. During this year the church was built, at a cost of \$3,000, added to the cost of parsonage, \$1,072.67, making a total of \$4072.67. In 1866 S. N. Phelps was pastor; in 1867, N. Tainter; 1868-9, Bartly Blain; 1870-1-2, Henry G. Bilber; 1873, William M. Bowdish, who was pastor three years. J. M. Liscomb then took the charge and retained it for three years; 1879-80 G. W. Barnett was pastor. He was succeeded by the present pastor, Rev. John Watson. During the present incumbent's charge the church has been thoroughly repaired and painted, at an expense of \$266.25. The church is free from debt, and has an insurance of \$2,500, and the parsonage \$1,500, in the Continental Insurance Company.

*Association of Christians Opposed to Secret Societies.*—The first anti-secret association organized in this state was effected at the door of the Congregational church in St. Charles about June 1, 1872,

the inside of the building not being available for a business meeting. The organization was the result of two lectures delivered by Rev. Charles A. Blanchard, of Wheaton, Illinois, and it was made auxiliary to the national association, the objects of which, according to its articles of constitution, are primarily to expose and oppose all the secret associations of the age, inasmuch as they are regarded by the members as hostile to the Christian religion and the existence of a republican state. The new organization started with twenty-four members, and in 1873 its name was changed to the Winona County Christian Association, and a new constitution adopted. The original officers of the association were: Oren Cravath, president; E. S. Harvey, vice-president; P. T. Thurber, secretary and treasurer. An anti-masonic library is owned by the association, and meetings held to discuss the questions involved in the controversy between this society and those who oppose their views. The library is free to all. The present officers are: S. B. Patterson, president; P. Huller, vice-president; L. S. Downing, treasurer; W. H. Morrill, secretary and librarian. December 12, 1878, a state association was formed at St. Charles, and annual convocations are held from time to time in the interest of its declared objects.

#### PUBLIC SCHOOL.

If the grade and efficiency of the public schools in any community are to be accepted as a true index of the general intelligence of such community, and the value it places upon thorough instruction in such branches of knowledge as may be included in a somewhat liberal curriculum, then may St. Charles honestly congratulate herself upon the record she has thus made. Nor is the ambitious little city on the western confines of the county at all unmindful of the record she is thus making for herself through the enlightened efforts of her educational board, fully sustained, as they are, by the intelligent liberality of that independent school district. This record extends over a period of about sixteen years, during which time discouragements of no ordinary character have been met and overcome, and out of which the public school of that city emerges with a reputation for efficiency, thoroughness and honesty of administration that commands the hearty approbation of all qualified judgments.

Prior to 1867 the St. Charles district was included in the general public school system of the county, and was known as district No.

60, being so borne on the rolls of the county superintendent and included in his regular reports to the state superintendent of instruction. By a special act of the Minnesota legislature, passed February 6, 1867, this district, No. 60, was created a chartered district, as such entitled to all the special privileges accorded such districts under the laws of the state. The district at this time included seven and one-half sections of land. By special act of legislature, of March 4, 1868, section 31 of St. Charles township, Winona county, and one and one-half sections from Olmstead county (formerly included in the independent school district of Dover), were added to the territory included in the old district No. 60, making the full complement of ten sections comprised in the chartered school district of St. Charles as thus constituted. The boundaries of this district remain unchanged since that date. The same year that the chartered district was created, 1867, a commodious school building was erected, and preparations were made for conducting schoolwork on a scale commensurate with the needs of the district. The new school building occupied a full block near the center of the corporation, one block east of the main business street of the village. It was a substantial frame structure with solid stone foundations, containing six spacious classrooms and a general assembly-room, and cost when complete \$16,000. Here the school grew and prospered for nearly eleven years, when it was destroyed by fire, August 31, 1878, the loss being about one-half covered by insurance. The school board immediately met, called for plans and specifications for a new school building, let the contract, and in just ninety days from breaking ground for the foundations of the new structure the keys were turned over to the board of education, the structure complete at a cost of \$11,475. To this should be added \$1,500 for furniture and furnaces. The new structure deserves more than a passing notice, as it is one of unique character, the plans for which were copyrighted by Langdon, of Winona, in 1877, and designated by him the Centennial School Building. The special features of this plan are, economy of construction, isolation of classrooms, so that no noise or confusion in one disturbs the others, three sides of each classroom fully exposed to light and air, and a complete system of ventilation. The plan itself is quite difficult of description, as it does not fall under any particular order of architecture, but may be generally stated as consisting of an irregular hexagonal center, from which extend four arms. The



passage-ways, staircases, entrances to clothes-closets and classrooms are into and from this center, four of the sides of which form the four unlighted ends of the classrooms that open out of this central hall. By this arrangement there will be as many sets of classrooms, four in each set, as there are stories to the structure. These radiating classrooms are all set diagonally to the cardinal points of the compass, so that the windows of each classroom give free access to sunlight upon three sides.

The St. Charles school building is a two-story brick, solid stone foundations and basement for furnaces. The solid walls of stone in the basement carried to the first floor are continued in brick to the ceilings of the second story, thus rendering the divisions complete and greatly enhancing the safety of the structure should fire break out in any part. A separate furnace supplies heat to each wing of the building, and capacious ventilating flues insure a constant current of pure air throughout the classrooms. No assembly-room is provided for in this arrangement. The classrooms, eight in number, six only of them occupied, are uniform in size, and fully provided with all modern appliances for schoolwork. The staircases leading from the second story to the main floor are amply sufficient for all purposes. Of these there are two, each five feet wide in the clear and arranged at opposite sides of a broad hall. The approaches to the street from the main hall are also fully adequate to the most rapidly necessitated exit. Besides the eight recitation-rooms there are eight cloak-rooms, eight teachers' closets and ample storage room for fuel below.

The presiding genius of this pattern temple of teaching is Prof. D. Steward, who is ably seconded by an efficient corps of five teachers, supervising one grammar, one intermediate and three primary departments.

The first secretary of the new school board, elected under the charter given in 1877, was John Pickert, present postmaster of the city.

Much of the efficiency of the school is due to the untiring efforts of the clerk of the board, E. Hill, Esq., who has held that position since 1873. The present board of education is as follows: E. M. Gallup, chairman; E. Hill, clerk; Chas. Gerrish, treasurer; H. C. Parrott, Dr. W. A. Chamberlin and R. L. Dawley.

As public money is paid only on the actual enrollment, and not upon the numbers of scholars of school age in the district, the number of legal school age within the district is not known. The

actual enrollment for 1882 was 403. While inspecting the premises and classrooms for the purposes of this work, we were given a specimen of the school's proficiency in combining numbers. A class of over twenty scholars, averaging less than eleven years of age each, were called before the blackboard and repeatedly added columns of figures, ranging from fifteen to twenty-one figures in a column, aggregating from 90 to 127 as the sum total, as fast as the numbers could possibly be written on the board by the teacher. Again and again, with the watch in our hands, we timed the process, in from seven to fifteen seconds. We were invited to say a word to the class, and in response promised to put them in Winona county history. Wishing to avoid all insidious distinctions, we make no mention of the particular class or teacher, but thus redeem our promise.

D. Steward, principal, is a native of Vermont and a graduate of Dartmouth College, class of 1875. Since leaving college Mr. Steward has been actively engaged in teaching, having adopted this as his life-work. Mr. Steward's first engagement as principal of St. Charles schools was for the school year 1880-1, at the expiration of which he took a trip through the west, and returning, assumed charge for the school year 1882-3, at an advance in salary of twenty-five per cent over first year's contract. Mr. Steward is recognized as a thorough-going teacher, of broad, comprehensive views, and thoroughly honest in his educational work.

Miss M. A. Buck, daughter of Hon. C. F. Buck, of Winona, has charge of the grammar department; Miss L. M. Glidden is teacher of the intermediate; Miss Mary Clarkson, "A" primary; Miss Helen F. Lathrop, "B" primary; Miss M. A. Gates, daughter of M. H. Gates, herself a native of St. Charles, and with Miss Buck, a graduate of the State Normal, is in charge of the "C" primary room.

On February 25, 1864, Rising Sun Lodge was organized under dispensation of the M.W. Grand Master of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Minnesota, and Robert Stewart, Benjamin Birge and George H. Clark were designated as principal officers, and thus it continued to labor until October 26, 1864, when a charter was granted by the M.W. Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Minnesota: M.W. A. T. C. Pierson, G.M.; R.W. L. E. Thompson, D.G.M.; R.W. C. H. Lindsley, G.S.W.; R.W. W. T. Rigby, G.J.W.; George W. Prescott, G. Sec., under

the name and style of Rising Sun Lodge, No. 49, A. F. and A. M., with Robert Stewart, W.M. ; Benjamine Birge, S.W. ; George H. Clark, J.W. ; Nathan Novatus Pike, Treas. ; Joshua Martin, Sec. ; Allen O. Adams, S.D. ; Charles M. Lake, J.D. ; R. B. Bunce, Tyler. At the first annual election, held on December 22, 1864, Samuel Young Hyde was elected W.M., and by consecutive re-election held the office four years, presiding with rare administrative prudence and marked distinction.

December 17, 1869, Nelson Hardy Swift was elected W.M. At the sixth annual election, held December 16, 1869, Samuel Y. Hyde was again elected W.M., and at the annual election held December 15, 1870, was succeeded by Charles Griswold, who, being subsequently elected to the office of M.W.G.M., was succeeded by the election of S. A. Johnson, February 16, 1871, said election being held by virtue of a dispensation granted by M.W.G.M. C. W. Nash. At the eighth annual election held December, 21, 1871, Samuel Y. Hyde was again called to preside, and by successive re-election was continued as W.M. until December 28, 1875, having served eight of the eleven terms since the charter organization of the lodge. December 16, 1875, Alfred P. Stearns was elected W.M., and re-elected in the succeeding years, 1876-77. December 19, 1878, George H. Johnson was elected W.M., and re-elected at the annual election held December 18, 1879. Alfred P. Stearns was elected for a fourth term at the annual election, December 16, 1880, and at the annual election of December 15, 1881, was succeeded by E. Merrill Gallup, the present incumbent. From its organization under the wise guidance and guardian care of illustrious, worthy, administrative officers the lodge has maintained a steady, healthy and prosperous growth, aggregating since its organization a grand total of 194 members, of which it yet retains upon the roll fully one-half, notwithstanding the depleting processes of death, demission, and the many and various other causes and mutations inevitably incidental to progress in all human affairs. Inharmonies have sometimes lurked in its deliberations to confront the sagacity of wisdom, strength and beauty, and mar the loveliness and glory of friendship ; but mainly all its activities and deliberations have been characterized by a due admixture of prudence, patience, fortitude, and that noble forbearance which ultimately neutralizes every defection and harmonizes all infelicities. Its charities have been many and munificent ; seldom unworthily, and generally judiciously bestowed ; so that while

many suffering recipients have experienced a sweet satisfaction and happy relief by the gracious benefactions of its liberal almonry of the resources of many years of prosperity up to the year 1880, its treasury was never plethoric or groaning with idle accumulations.

To relieve the distressed is deemed not only as the highest and first duty of the masonic brotherhood, but it is hailed as a privilege and honor by every true craftsman. It is also the sacred privilege of every person in affliction or in want, to apply for such needed help or relief as may be in the power of a Mason to grant. Whenever such application for relief in calamity, distress or affliction has been made to Rising Sun, No. 49, whether by individual or community, it has always observed and enforced the masonic rule of brotherly love, relief and truth, not only in the interest of the craft, but in the interest of sweet charity itself in manner and form, never questioning whether its beneficiary objects be craftsman or profane.

Thus has Rising Sun lived and prospered in its charities, amassing no wealth, and scarcely ever with a respectable fund in its treasury; yet in April of the year 1880 it conceived and developed a scheme whereby in conjunction with Orient Chapter, No. 19, R.A.M., a large and commodious second-story hall, 54×80 feet, was erected and commodiously arranged into audience and banquet halls, with rooms necessary and ample thereto, together with a fair equipment of furniture and convenient fixtures at present owned and occupied conjointly by both societies; and now, Anno Lucis 5882, Rising Sun Lodge, No. 49, is blessed with peace and harmony of more than average unanimity, and with comparatively brightening prospects for future growth and usefulness, with foundations deeply laid in the solid experiences of the past; its standing is firm, compact and impregnable, its course is onward to the motto "Excelsior." In the present organization the officers are: E. Merrill Gallup, W.M.; Robert Mares, S.W.; Clarence V. Ferguson, J.W.; James C. Woodward, Treas.; E. Geo. Hill, Sec.; Robert F. Wahler, S.D.; Malcolm Clark, J.D.; Allen O. Adams, Chaplain; Geo. H. Johnson, Marshal; Henry N. Gage, S.S.; Thomas Clarkson, J.S.; William Davidson, Tyler.

*Orient Chapter, No. 19, R.A.M.*—Early in the year 1870, there being in St. Charles and vicinity several members of the masonic order who had taken the royal-arch degree, it was thought best to establish a chapter of the order, and accordingly on February 22 of that year a petition for dispensation to institute a chapter of Royal



Arch Masons in the city of St. Charles was presented to E. D. B. Porter, at that time M.E.G.H.P. of the State of Minnesota. The petition was signed by Robert Stewart, John Bullen, S. Y. Hyde, Truman Morse, Charles Greswold, T. T. Stevens, Charles H. Slocum, Robert B. Kellam, Alfred P. Stearns, Henry Talbot and Nelson H. Swift, and named companion Robert Stewart as M.E.H.P., Samuel Y. Hyde, K., and John Bullen, Scribe. The dispensation was duly granted, and on March 10, 1870, the first regular convocation of the chapter was held.

Companion Robert Stewart, who, by reason of age, zeal, ripe experience and ability was styled the "Father of Masonry in St. Charles," held the office of M.E.H.P. by successive re-election until his death, which occurred July 31, 1876, being then incumbent of the office.

At the next annual election, held December 14, 1876, companion John Pickert was elected H.P., and by consecutive re-election has held the office ever since, and under his efficient management and control Orient Chapter has maintained a steady, strong and prosperous growth, nearly doubling its membership during his administration of its affairs, having now, January 1, 1883, the grand complement of seventy members on its rolls. Its present officers are as follows: John Pickert, H.P.; Thomas P. Dixon, K.; Edwin Hill, S.; Samuel A. Johnson, C.H.; A. O. Adams, P.S.; Harlow Brown, R.A.C.; James C. Woodard, Treas.; E. George Hill, Sec.; E. M. Gallup, M. 3d vail; J. W. Scott, M. 2d vail; R. F. Wahler, M. 1st vail; Allen Gerrish, Sen.

*St. Charles Lodge, No. 64, I. O. O. F.*—Located at St. Charles, was instituted on the 28th day of May, 1878, under the direction of Past Grand Master I. M. Westfall, acting as Deputy Grand Master. The charter members were: Charles E. Kendall, John W. Zerwas, B. Neuman, I. M. Westfall and H. E. Doty.

The following officers were installed by O. E. Lawson, acting G.M.: Charles Kendall, N.G.; John W. Zerwas, V.G.; E. C. Johnson, Rec. Sec.; B. Neuman, Treas.; J. W. Burns, Conductor; A. W. Stebbins, R.S. to N.G.; I. M. Westfall, L.S. to N.G.; Jacob Wachter, R.S. to V.G.; H. E. Doty, L.S. to V.-G., and B. Neuman, Warden.

The lodge was represented in the Grand Lodge of Minnesota in 1878 by I. M. Westfall, in 1879 by B. Neuman, in 1880 by John W. Zerwas, in 1881 by A. W. Stebbins and in 1882 by John W. Zerwas.

The officers for the last term of 1882 are as follows: T. D. See field, N.G.; George Miller, V.G.; Henry Maire, Rec. Sec.; John Cook, Treas.; E. D. Wilmot, Conductor; C. H. Tock, Warden; Julius Bussnitz, Guardian; John W. Zerwas, R.S. to the N.G.; C. A. Smith, L.S. to the N.G.; S. A. Keep, R.S. to the V.G.; Jacob Wachter, L.S. to the V.G.; C. Lane, R.S.S.; C. A. Demro, L.S.S.; A. W. Stebbins, Chaplain and Henry Maire, P.G.

The total membership at present is thirty-three. The lodge is in a flourishing condition financially, and its supply of furniture and lodge fixtures is equal to any of its numbers in the state.

*Germania Lodge, No. 22, A. O. U. W.*—Was organized at St. Charles nearly six years ago, its charter bearing date August 10, 1877. The original membership was sixteen; about thirty members in all have been obligated and the present membership is twenty. The decrease is entirely owing to removals and suspensions, no deaths of members having occurred since organization. Their meetings are held in Odd-Fellows' Hall, in common with which organization they are joint owners of the hall furniture and fixtures. The present officers of Germania are: J. T. Stewart, M.W.; W. Has-selgrave, F.; I. Bresler, O.; F. Blankenburgh, Rec.; F. H. Allen, Fin.; J. C. Woodard, Rec'r.; Jeremiah Dickenson, Guide; Ed. Pearson, I. W.; Louis Schnell, O. W.

#### CONCLUSION.

Up to the winter of 1863-4 there was no market in this place for wheat or other farm products, save what was required by the people for home consumption; but at this time Charles Wardner came here from Winona, built a store and grain warehouse attached, and put in a large stock of general merchandise, and received farm products in exchange for goods, or purchased the same for cash. The Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company were laying the iron track between here and Winona, and in the month of February, 1864, the road was completed to this place, and the iron horse for the first time entered the beautiful village of St. Charles. Warehouses, stores and other buildings sprung up as if by magic. Two lumber yards were opened here at that time, and all kinds of business began to prosper. Previous to this time the nearest market for the people of this place and vicinity, and for a long stretch of country west, was Winona, the roads being lined daily with teams, mostly ox-teams, laden with the produce of the land, going to Winona to sell,

and in return purchase such commodities as were necessary for the family and for opening up and improving the vast and fertile country tributary to Winona.

On February 28 the legislature passed an act to incorporate the city of St. Charles. The proposition was submitted to the people at an election held on March 1, 1870, and adopted. On March 8, 1870, an election was held for the purpose of electing city officers. At this election S. W. Stone, now of Aurora, Dakota Territory, was elected the first mayor of the city of St. Charles, and thenceforth it became a full-fledged city. The present city officers are as follows: C. W. Seefield, mayor; H. C. Parrott, W. R. Parr, C. N. Clark, S. C. McElhaney, aldermen; C. G. Bachelder, recorder; J. C. Woodard, treasurer; Joseph Bockler, assessor; E. G. Hill and E. M. Gallup, justices of the peace; A. H. Adams and G. T. Olds, constables; Miles Growt, city marshal; O. Potter, street commissioner.

At this time (December, 1882) the city of St. Charles has a population of about 1,200. Her public schools are of the very best in the state, being of a high standard, in which her citizens take a lively interest, employing at all times the very best of teachers. The terms of school aggregate nine months in each year. Six church edifices representing as many different denominations, viz., Roman Catholic, Episcopal, Baptist, Methodist, German Evangelical and Congregational, are established here, in which religious services are held in some or all every Sabbath. As a commercial and manufacturing place it has superior advantages, being surrounded with a rich agricultural district, the surplus products of which are yearly on the increase.

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## CHAPTER XLVIII.

### ROLLING STONE TOWNSHIP.

ROLLING STONE TOWNSHIP, as organized by the county commissioners, consists of parts of townships No. 107 and 108 north, of range No. 8 west, of Winona county, Minnesota. The Mississippi river flowing along the northern boundary in a southeasterly direction makes the town irregular in form. It takes its name from the

creek which flows through it from south to north, affording complete drainage, excepting a small brook in the northwest part, which drains five or six sections.

The surface consists of about seven sections of bottom lands contiguous to the Mississippi and subject to overflow, but producing wild grass and timber, and about 1,500 acres of terrace or table lands lying between the bluffs and the bottom lands and the remainder of bluff or ridge and of valley land.

The cultivated lands as reported by the assessor for this year (1882) number 5,134 acres, leaving 14,843 uncultivated, about 10,000 acres of which are bluff or ridge lands and 4,843 are along the Mississippi bottom. The inhabitants reside in the valleys, in which there are sixty farms, twenty of them reaching upon the bluffs where about 1,500 acres are cultivated.

#### NAME, FIRST SETTLEMENT, ETC.

This township, Winona and Whitewater are the only names in the county that relate to the Indian names. The Sioux name for the stream was E-yan-o-min-man. Rendered into French, Roche qu de Boule, meaning a good place to roll stone down the bluff.

[For this information the writer is indebted to the Hon. H. H. Sibley and also to Hon. Norman W. Kittson. Mr. Kittson spent two years near the mouth of the creek with an Indian trader by the name of Labothe, about the year 1840.]

The Sioux treaty which extinguished the Indian title to the land was not ratified till 1853, but in February, 1852, Mr. Israel M. Naracong made a claim for the purpose of securing a water-power on the Rolling Stone. This is now occupied by the flouring-mill of A. D. Ellsworth. Mr. Naracong remained here till July following, when he left for his home in Wisconsin and did not return. Mr. Naracong made no improvements excepting to build a board shanty 8x12 feet in size, which he occupied, in company with a man by the name of Josiah R. Keene. They spent part of the winter and spring in cutting black walnut timber, which was rafted and sold in Lacrosse. The first permanent settlement was made in the town by a colony which was organized in New York city in October, 1851, under the name of the "Western Farm and Village Association." Minutes of the organization and of the meetings were published in the New York "Tribune;" and the association also published a small paper devoted to its interests and called "The Western Farm and Village



Advocate." A fee of \$5 was all that was required to become a member, and in the spring of 1852 the association numbered nearly 400 from different places in the northern states, parties joining from all of the New England states and from Michigan, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. A majority were, however, from New York city, and of foreign birth. The objects of the association, as expressed by their paper, recognizing the difficulties and inconveniences of individually settling new countries, proposed to obviate them by organization to settle upon cheap lands, to secure cheaper transportation and by purchasing building material and supplies in quantities to get cheaper rates; and, also, to have the advantages of society, churches, schools, roads and bridges, and other things pertaining to civilization, without waiting for the country to be settled gradually.

It may be recorded here that, at the time of settlement, there were false and malicious statements spread in regard to the character of the colony. They were stigmatized as infidels, Fourierites, communists, etc. There was no foundation for these statements, but they had a tendency to bring the settlers into disrepute. The editor of the "Tribune," Mr. Greeley, took a lively interest in the association, but predicted a failure from what he considered a defective plan. The association as such was a partial failure, but many of its objects have been fully realized. The committee appointed to locate the colony selected the Rolling Stone valley for the farm lands, and the table lands near the mouth of the creek for the village, naming the village Minnesota City and the township Rolling Stone. A large majority of the association were dissatisfied with the location and would not remain, giving as reasons that the location was not immediately on the river, that the land still belonged to the Indians, and that the general character of the place was not suitable for settlement.

The real truth of dissatisfaction was probably owing to personal and individual considerations. It is well known that many of the artisans and professional men of the cities have what may be termed a land lunacy, supposing that to become a landowner secures independence and plenty.

This colony was composed of all manner of artisans, who were intelligent and industrious in their line of business, and were dependent on that for a living, and were without sufficient ready money to live. There was not among them all half a dozen prac-

tical, professional farmers, nor half that number practically acquainted with what we call western life.

It is true some things were not properly represented. The location was said to be on the river, and that building lumber could be bought from passing rafts at from \$5 to \$8 per thousand feet, and that steamboats could land goods very near the place, which was found to be untrue. If it had been true, these persons could not stay here. As soon as the place was selected, in April, the association sent a squad of men, twelve or fourteen in number, to prepare houses for shelter for those who were to follow in May, the 15th being the time set for the colony to be here. This pioneer squad, as they were called, if they had been well qualified for this work, could not have accomplished it, as they had no recognized leader and not a dollar in money for their use. The treasurer did not arrive till some time in May, and after paying some of the surveyors and other incidental expenses the association was without money.

But the colony came, and about the 30th of May there were ninety men and nearly 400 women and children on the ground without any shelter, except temporary tents and such shelter as could be made with poles and turf. The season was backward, cold, wet and windy, and considerable sickness prevailed. There were comparatively very few deaths, but at the beginning of winter only twenty families remained.

The first public meeting held by the settlers here was on May 6, 1852, and fifty-two responded to their names.

May 19 a petition was drawn and sent to the postoffice department for the establishment of a postoffice, with the name of Robert Pike as postmaster. Mr. Pike received his appointment and the office was established about the middle of June.

On the 25th of May occurred the first death, Mr. David Densmore, a tailor by trade, from Kennebec, Maine; he was here without a family and about sixty years of age. There were two or three deaths immediately after Mr. Densmore's, and some of the persons who left the colony spread exaggerated reports of the condition of the settlers. Gov. Ramsey and his secretary, Alex. Wilkin, came down from St. Paul to see if they could be of any assistance. The Governor expressed his confidence in the ability of the people to take care of themselves and gave them cheerful words of encouragement, but expressed the opinion that the colony should have located nearer to St. Paul.

The last week in May a committee was appointed to explore the country between here and the great bend of the St. Peter's river to ascertain if there was a feasible route for a railroad. The committee consisted of Robert Pike, I. M. Naracong and William Stephens. Two reports were made, both of them representing the route as entirely feasible and the country as a beautiful undulating prairie and well watered, with here and there fine groves of timber. It is interesting to note that in these reports the beauty and desirability of the present site of Rochester is well described.

On July 4 a census was taken and the population numbered 154. July 12 an election precinct was organized and Thomas K. Allen chosen justice of the peace, Augustus A. Gilbert, notary public; James Wright, assessor; Josiah Keene, constable, and Robert Taylor, collector. These officers were subsequently appointed by Gov. Ramsey. July 26 Messrs. John Iams, Hiram Campbell and O. M. Lord were appointed road commissioners.

Religious meetings were held in the forenoons and afternoons of every Sunday. The First Baptist society, the first religious organization in southern Minnesota, was formed here in the summer of 1852. In the fall of 1852 a school was taught by Miss Ann Orton. In the spring of 1853 a school district was organized under the laws of the territory, being the first and for some time the only organized district in the then county of Fillmore, and summer and winter terms of school have been continuously taught here since.

There was no election held here this fall, as a six months' residence was necessary to become voters; but the settlers sent John Iams to St. Paul as a lobbyist while the legislature was in session and paid his expenses. Mr. Iams was from Wabash, Indiana, a carpenter by trade, and was afterward chosen as the first sheriff of the county. He built the first log house erected here, covering the roof with shakes or long shingles split from the red-oak trees. Four more log houses were built, the others being made of rough pine boards, brought here in small rafts by Mr. Densmore and Mr. Lord. In these houses the settlers spent the winter very pleasantly, with much social enjoyment.

The association had laid out a village of large dimensions, with wide streets and avenues and large public parks on the terrace land near the mouth of the creek, apportioning to each member four large village lots and also a claim of 160 acres of farm land in the valleys. So few remained that there was ample room for all, but

the claims were made before there was a government survey, and when these lines were made, claims often conflicted. This occasioned considerable discord, until the claim laws were well understood.

The summer season of 1853 was occupied in building and opening farms in the valleys.

Mr. E. B. Drew had broken thirty acres of valley land in 1852, and therefrom raised a small crop of sod corn, some potatoes and other vegetables, and in the fall he sowed some winter wheat. This was considered the first farm opened in 1852, though small patches of ground were broken in numerous places during the same season. The next season some of the settlers moved on to the valley farms, and continue to reside there. This year a large supply of sod corn, potatoes and a great variety of garden vegetables were raised. Wild grass was abundant, and though a good deal of hay was burned by prairie fires in the fall, the cattle, numbering about eighty head, did remarkably well. Fish were plenty and easily taken, and wild game also; flour was procured down the river at \$4 per barrel, and from that time to this there has been no want of the staple articles of food, and usually a large surplus.

Before the lands were offered at public sale pre-emption claims had been filed upon the valley farms and upon the village plat, and these lands were entered at the land office in Goot's subdivisions.

During the season of 1854 Mr. Lord put in operation a sawmill. Settlements were gradually extended and new farms were opened, buildings added, etc. A wagon road was established to Winona, and one up the South Valley and one up the North Valley, and bridges were built, but nothing occurred beyond the ordinary incidents of early settlement for several years.

In 1854 congress established a mail route, No. 14015, from Minnesota City to Traverse des Sioux, and semi-monthly service was ordered on the route in the fall of 1855. This was the first mail route established in the territory south of the St. Peters river. The route was afterward extended from Minnesota City to Winona and terminated at St. Peters instead of Traverse des Sioux.

#### SCHOOLS.

About the year 1860 the settlers had increased in numbers so as to form two more school districts, one in the west part of the town in what is now the village of Rolling Stone, and one in Middle or



McLaughlin's valley. In 1866 another district was formed in Deering's valley.

These districts have cheap frame schoolhouses. There are at present enrolled in the Rolling Stone school forty-seven pupils, in McLaughlin's valley thirteen, in Deering's valley fourteen and ninety-six in the Minnesota City school. The last named has a brick schoolhouse and two departments of school; the house, grounds, etc., being valued at \$6,000. There are three fractional districts united with parts from the adjoining towns, but the schoolhouses are in the other towns.

#### RAILROADS.

The Winona & St. Peter or Chicago & Northwestern railroad has now been in operation about twenty years. It enters the township near the southeast corner and passes out through the valley of the Rolling Stone, on the south side. It has at Minnesota City a spur track to Troost's mill of about 100 rods in length, and a side track to Ellsworth's mill and elevator, and a neat, convenient passenger depot and freight house used in common with the Milwaukee & St. Paul road, which passes through the town along the Mississippi river; the latter road has here two long side tracks and a grain elevator.

#### VILLAGES.

Rolling Stone village, in the western part of the town, is at the junction of the north and west valleys of the creek. The inhabitants of the village and of the vicinity are Germans. It contains three stores, two hotels, two blacksmith shops, a fine stone church and neat parsonage, a schoolhouse and two or three saloons. The church belongs to the Catholic denomination, and nearly all the people in the vicinity are members. A Catholic burial-ground is also established here.

The stream near here furnishes power for a custom-mill, which is largely patronized by the surrounding country. Minnesota City is situated at the mouth of the Rolling Stone valley, six miles west of Winona, near the east line of the township. It contains a railroad depot, two flouring-mills, two stores, two elevators, two hotels, a blacksmith shop, a butcher shop, a brick schoolhouse, a large brewery and a saloon. Population 200. A Baptist church is organized here and regular services have been held for several years. The society has no building.

## IMPROVEMENTS.

Troost's mill was built by Mr. Otto Troost in 1866. The mill is  $50 \times 80$  feet in size, on the ground, and four stories high, and has a larger capacity of manufacture than any other mill on the stream. The power is partly supplied by diverting the creek, a distance of sixty rods, to the Mississippi bottom, making a fall of sixteen feet, while the natural creek flows two miles to reach the same level. A Corliss engine of 150-horse power is also used, the two enabling the mill to manufacture 400 barrels of flour per day. The wheat is taken to the mill by a spur or side-track from the Winona & St. Peter railroad and is obtained mostly in the western part of the state.

Ellsworth's mill was built in 1867. The power is furnished by a dam across the Rolling Stone, giving ten feet of fall. The building is a wooden structure upon a strong stone foundation, in size  $54 \times 72$  feet and three stories high, with elevator next to the side track and a warehouse detached  $40 \times 70$  feet in size. The capacity of the mill is 750 bushels of wheat or 150 barrels of flour per day. It has unusual facilities for the manufacture of good grades of flour; being connected with an elevator any grade of wheat may be selected for milling. The estimated value is \$35,000.

## FLOOD.

In February, 1876, Minnesota City was visited with a disastrous flood. The Rolling Stone drains a large extent of surface and at the village has a narrow exit. The ground was frozen hard and a heavy rain had filled the water-holes and covered the country with a sheet of ice. The snow then covered this to the depth of a foot when a warm heavy rain fell for twenty-four hours, and as the ground could not absorb any water, it raised higher than has ever been known. The mill-pond above the village was filled with ice four feet in thickness, and when the ice broke up and began to flow, within a few minutes it destroyed three dwellings, a store, a butcher shop, and was deposited in huge pieces upon the railroad bridges and track and in different places over the fields.

## PAST AND PRESENT.

It is now thirty years since the men who plow first came to this town. Railroads and wagon-roads have taken the places of the Indian trails. For the Indian the rich soil and the beauty of the scenery had no value; though fish were plenty, game was not so abun-

dant as farther away, and he had no desire to remain ; and to-day he looks with disdain upon the fields of grain and grass, the farm-houses, fences and barns ; if he is hungry he covets some of the plethoric stock for meat, and would like to possess some of the fine horses to ride. The schools, the mills, the factories are open to him, but he makes no sign of changing his condition ; when the plow comes in he must go out ; he has no ambition to manufacture ; a pipe, a canoe and bows and arrows exhaust his skill. To the settlers who came here the first few days seemed like a perpetual Sunday, now even the darkness does not hush the hum of active life. The cars, the mills and the steamboats during the night keep pace with the plow and harvester and thresher in the day. Thirty years ago our resources were limited, our numbers comparatively few ; now we have all the advantages pertaining to communities of civilized life. Of the persons who came here then, there are at present remaining in the vicinity twenty-three. Some of them have grown-up families and their grandchildren are going to school, and old and young are still ready to cheer to the sentiment of Robert Pike, given thirty years ago, "Hurrah, then, for our chosen home !"

No greener valleys meet the sight,  
No purer fountains gushing free,  
No birds of song, or flowers more bright,  
Bringing perfume and melody.

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## CHAPTER XLIX.

### TOWNSHIP OF DRESBACH.

THE township of Dresbach lies in the southeast corner of Winona county. It is the smallest township in the county, containing 4,400 acres. The shape of the township is nearly a perfect right-angled triangle, with the acute angle on the bank of the Mississippi, just above Dakota. The township is five and one-fifth miles long from north to south, and about three and one-fourth miles wide on the southern boundary. It is bounded on the east by the Mississippi river, south by Houston county, and on the west by the township of New Hartford. The township was formed under the organization act of 1858, and was named Dresbach, after Geo. B. Dresbach, Sr.,

the founder of Dresbach village. The surface of the township is considerably broken by the chain of bluffs extending through the county along the Mississippi. The bluffs, from their abruptness and loftiness, in some parts of the township, form a very majestic appearance, and are much admired by the lovers of nature. The highest bluffs are found along the Mississippi, where they rise several hundred feet above the river. Mineral bluff (named from the mineral deposits found under its base) is the highest (405 feet) in the township. This bluff is just at the upper end of the village of Dresbach. It affords from its summit, one of the grandest views of any bluff along the Mississippi. One can see La Crosse, Onalaska, Kansas, Trempealeau, Galesville, and several other towns in Wisconsin, at distances of ten to twenty miles. There are other bluffs in the township, from the tops of which one never becomes tired of looking, or "grows weary and sick at heart."

The soil of the township is good, being a black sub-clay soil, and annually produces large crops of wheat, corn, oats, rye, barley, potatoes, etc. It is also well adapted to grazing, to which many farmers are beginning to turn their attention. All, or nearly all, the township was once heavily timbered, the principal species being white and black oak. The timber cleared from the farms has been a source of great income to the farmer as it always brought him ready cash in the market. In fact, many farmers have relied too long on their timber for their incomes, until, as a result, their lands have become almost treeless. The township is well supplied with water. Living springs are found gushing from the bluffs all over the township, some affording sufficient water the year round for large farms. The springs are cold and clear as crystal, and free from all unpleasant tastes. There are no large streams in the township, but in every valley and from every bluff you will find a little rill with clear and cool water rippling its way to the Mississippi.

The population of the township is about 350, consisting of nearly every nationality of Europe. The native born rank first in population, and Germans in the foreign element. The township has good public roads running and intersecting each other at various places, thus affording the farmer an easy and accessible way to market with his produce. Most of the produce of the township is marketed at La Crosse, La Crescent, Dakota, Pickwick, and some at Winona. No other township in the county has so many and accessible markets as



Dresbach. The farmers find a regular market at Dakota the year round for all kinds of produce.

Indian mounds and relics are found in various parts of the township. Not long since, while some men were digging in Mineral bluff, one hundred and fifty feet above the river, a skeleton of an unusual size was unearthed. On measuring, the giant skeleton was found to be ten feet in length, with other parts in proper proportion. In the skull was found a copper hatchet, and a dart or arrow-head nine inches long. Another skeleton, nine feet long, was found in the village of Dresbach, while some men were digging a road or trench.

These skeletons were of an unusual size to those generally taken from Indian mounds. Their size, form and structure would lead those versed in paleontology to believe they belonged to a race prior to the Indian. In many of the mounds have also been found copper hatchets, chisels, various kinds of tomahawks, and other weapons of war; also these antique races seemed to have some process of hardening copper, unknown to any modern process. Where they came from, when they lived, and whence they have gone, is only conjecture and speculation. That they were mighty races, skilled in the mode of warfare, understanding the mechanical arts, for all these we have conclusive evidence. But of their end we know nothing. Whether they were swept from the earth by some deadly epidemic, or annihilated themselves by intestine wars, or died of inherent weakness, we have nothing to inform us.

The first permanent settler that came to the township of Dresbach was Nathan Brown, of New York, who settled in 1849 at Dakota. There was a man by the name of John Reed here a few years prior to Mr. Brown, but Reed was merely a trader and never became a permanent settler. All that now can be learned of Reed is, that he had a trading-post on the banks of the Mississippi at (old) Dakota. The ruins of an old chimney were seen for several years after he left, which were supposed to be where he had his trading-post. But Mr. Nathan Brown, now living near the village of Dakota, was the first to erect permanent buildings and become a regular settler. First buildings that Mr. Brown raised were two log cabins,—one for a dwelling, the other for a store. He also built a log stable—all 12×16 feet. The stock in his store consisted of corn, flour, sugar, meat, tobacco, etc. His trade for the first few years was confined to the Indians and rivermen. The log cabins built by Mr.

Brown have all been torn down and have entirely disappeared. He bought most of his goods at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. The following prices will show the cost of different articles in the early history of this county — tea, \$1.25 per lb. ; coffee, 5 lbs. for \$1 ; flour, \$6 to \$8 per bbl. At one time Mr. Brown paid as high as \$22.50 a barrel for pork.

The next permanent settler following Mr. Brown was a Frenchman, by the name of Peleau, who was sent here by Richard Chute & Co. in 1850. Peleau built a store and residence at (old) Dakota, and carried on considerable trade with the natives and scattering settlers. His buildings, as well as those first built by Mr. Brown, have all been torn down. In fact, the buildings known as old Dakota have all disappeared, and not even a relic left to commemorate the spot of the "Ancient City." The next settlers after Messrs. Brown and Peleau, were a colony of French, who bought land and settled where the village of Dresbach now stands. Of this colony Joseph Maynard bought 120 acres of land of the government in 1852. Lambert Robillard in 1852 bought 160 acres from the government. Joseph and Francis Trudell (1852) had 112 acres. Alfonso Warren (1852) bought 190 acres. He was the first to burn lime and manufacture grindstones. The above-described lands constitute the present plat of the village of Dresbach. The said lands were bought by Geo. B. Dresbach, Sr., in May, 1857. The village site was located and platted September, 1857.

#### VILLAGE OF DRESBACH.

In September and October, 1857, eleven houses were built, now a part of the present village. The first store of the village was built and run by Abram Warren, of Ohio, in 1857. A postoffice was also established that year with Mr. Warren as postmaster. Warren sold out his store to A. L. Jenks, who also succeeded him as postmaster. In 1863 another store was started by William Patton, of New York, who assisted Geo. B. Dresbach in building the present sawmill in 1862-3. The size of the building was 36×70 and cost \$8,400. Ed. Minor opened a general merchandise store in 1863 ; also the same year Mr. Caleb Inman started a store. Mr. Inman is still a merchant in the village. Geo. B. Dresbach opened a store in 1866, and Jesse P. Nevill a store in 1867, who was succeeded by Henry Becker, in 1869. Mr. Becker is still a merchant

in the village, and carries on a big trade. William Dickson started a grocery store in 1878. He still runs his store.

#### MANUFACTORIES OF DRESBACH.

The present owners and operators of the steam sawmill are Louis Blummintritt and Henry Blochik. They are also dealers in lumber, lath, shingles, etc.

William H. Sherwood and Gilbert Johnson, both formerly of New York, are the owners and operators of two large brickyards. They ship from three to four millions of brick annually. They employ from thirty to forty men.

W. B. Williams and L. C. Smith, of Red Wing, Minnesota, started a brickyard in Dresbach in the spring of 1882. They burned superior quality of brick, and will ship about one million of brick this year. Will increase the capacity of the yard for next season to three or four millions of brick.

In 1882 Geo. B. Dresbach, Jr., and John H. Moss organized the Northwestern Brick Company, under the firm name of Moss & Dresbach. This company will manufacture one million of brick this year, and increase their capacity for next season.

Joseph Ginther and John Schmeltzer, blacksmiths and machinists, have increased their line of business by building a steam-mill this year, for the manufacture of ground feed, turning lathes, laths and barrel hoops.

Winona County Mining and Stone Company, an incorporated company with capital stock of \$100,000, was organized in 1880, with John Gilman, of St. Paul, president; Geo. B. Dresbach, Sr., vice-president, and E. S. Burns, secretary and treasurer. This company is at present operating steam machinery in quarrying rock and mining mineral just above the village of Dresbach. J. F. Tostevin & Sons, of St. Paul, are now operating a stone quarry with steam machinery in the village of Dresbach. They also own and run a stone sawmill in connection with their quarry. They saw, dress and ship stone of sizes ready for use. Geo. B. Dresbach, Sr., and John Gilman own a stone quarry of fifteen acres now in operation; the stone of the above quarries being of the celebrated Berea, Ohio, sandstone in quality, now so extensively used throughout the United States for building purposes and grindstones.

The above quarries and the four brickyards now in operation make Dresbach a very lively and businesslike place.

## DAKOTA.

It is not known by the settlers how Dakota got its name, but is supposed to have originated among the Indians. The first houses that were built in (old) Dakota stood just above the present village. They were simply a few log cabins erected as a trading-post with the Indians and early settlers. The houses have all disappeared, and nothing remains to tell the story of the "ancient city." As this point had a good landing and outlet to the surrounding country, the early settlers had always labored to start a village here. The name is somewhat clothed in mystery, but the village itself was founded and started by Nathan Brown in 1849. In 1873 the site of the old village was vacated and that of the present Dakota located and surveyed. The location is most beautiful, being high and dry and free from inundations of the river. The soil is sandy and seldom wet or muddy. The first house was built in 1873. The building was moved one mile from above the village and put up on River street, between Rogers and Center streets, by Henry Becker, who opened a store in the part moved, and built on an addition for a dwelling. Mr. Becker carried on quite an extensive business for over a year, when he sold his building to J. W. Young and moved his stock to Dresbach.

The first hotel was built in the village in 1876 by Ellis Brown, deceased. After the death of her husband Mrs. Brown ran the hotel until 1880, when William Clow rented for two years. The house is now run by Dennis Sullivan.

In 1874 the postoffice of Dakota was established, with Nathan Brown as postmaster, which office he still holds.

## SKIFF FERRY.

March 31, 1873, Alex. C. Donalson began to make regular daily trips from Dresbach to Lacrosse with his skiff ferry. He ran three seasons between the above places, averaging 200 trips a season, of eighteen miles a trip, making 10,800 miles for the three seasons. In 1876 Mr. Donalson extended his trip from Dakota to La Crosse. He has averaged his regular 200 trips of twenty miles each every year, making 24,800 miles since 1876 and 34,800 miles since 1873. Mr. Donalson is the best oarsman that paddles the Mississippi. He is a large, tall, muscular man, and glides his boat over the water with as much ease and grace as the gentle current itself.



## SHOPS.

Mr. Peter Lee built and started the first blacksmith shop in Dakota in 1874. He formerly ran a shop in La Crescent and Dresbach. The first and only harness shop ever ran in Dakota was opened by Joseph Hoffman in 1874. In 1876 Mr. Leonard Helsaple opened a wagon-repairing shop. He sold out to Mr. W. H. Vance in 1878, who sold his building to Dennis Sullivan, who uses it as a sleeping-house for his boarders. In May, 1874, Charley Dalton started a merchandise and drug store in Dakota. Nathan Brown also owned and ran a store for some time in Dakota. In March, 1880, A. C. Brown started a general merchandise store. The latter is doing a flourishing business and at present he is acting postmaster.

## BURIED IN DAKOTA CEMETERY.

The first persons that died at Dakota and were buried in Bluff Cemetery were : Mrs. Eliza A. Brown, first wife of Nathan Brown, and infant of the same. Mrs. Brown died July 21, 1854, child August 16, 1854. The following are the names of some of the old settlers in and about Dakota who are buried in the above graveyard : Susan, wife of Caleb Inman, died July 21, 1880, aged 70 years ; Mary, wife of C. S. Guynnup, died December 16, 1876, aged 58 ; Reynold H. Brown, died March 30, 1870, aged 72 ; Charles Brown, died July 17, 1870, aged 79 ; Alvina, wife of B. J. Moore, died November 4, 1875, aged 47 ; Anna J. Cleveland died July 2, 1878, aged 67 ; Phebe A., wife of Simon Mott, died September 27, 1861, aged 77 ; Sarah, wife of Leonard Helsaple, died September 16, 1880, aged 66.

## SCHOOLS.

The first school of any kind was a select school taught in the township in the winter of 1856-7. The name of the teacher cannot now be ascertained. The school was taught where the village of Dresbach now stands. In the winter of 1858-9 was taught another subscription school by a teacher by the name of Charles Omsted. The first public district school was taught in Dresbach the winter of 1859-60 by Harlow Colsten at \$25 a month. The people had by private subscription built a schoolhouse, but the winter being very severe the house was too cold to hold school in it, so the school was taught in a private house. There were thirty-five pupils enrolled. School board—G. B. Dresbach and Rufus Reed. The first public school in Dakota under district organization was taught by Miss

Ellen Young in 1860. The school was held in Nathan Brown's trading shanty. There were eight scholars and the teacher. The latter received \$12 per month. The township has always been active in her educational interests. She has gone from her trading shanties and log cabins to large, commodious schoolhouses.

The first M. E. church of Dresbach township was organized May 25, 1856, by Rev. John Hooper, of Caledonia circuit.

The organization was effected at B. J. Moore's house, one-half mile west of Dakota. The names of those present, and who became members of the organization, were John Cramer and wife, James Fletcher and wife, and B. J. Moore and wife. As a number of the members of the above organization moved away, the meetings were discontinued for awhile. There were no churches then in this part of the county, so their meetings were conducted in shanties and private houses. Soon after the above meetings were discontinued the township became settled with a church-going people with no public worship. A new organization was formed in April, 1861, and called the Dakota and Dresbach class. The same organization is in effect yet, with a class at each of the above places. The organization has a membership of thirty-one, with B. J. Moore leader at Dresbach and Miss Lucinda Winters leader at Dakota. G. W. Barnette, of LaCrescent circuit, pastor at both places. The first Sabbath school of the township was organized by Rev. John Hooper, in a claim shanty, just below where Dakota now stands, with B. J. Moore superintendent. Here the children, now grown to manhood and womanhood, were gathered from Sabbath to Sabbath to learn those eternal truths taught their parents. The school was conducted by the Methodist Episcopal church, and had about twenty scholars. A union Sabbath school was organized in Dresbach in 1860, with E. G. Buck superintendent. The school is now under the supervision of the Methodist Episcopal church, with Godfreid Widmoyer superintendent. There is an attendance of about fifty-five. In 1879 a union Sabbath school was organized out of the old Methodist Episcopal Sabbath school of Dakota, by Rev. John Bally, with B. J. Moore superintendent. The school has an attendance of forty-five, and is in a prosperous condition.

November 18, 1881, a society under the name of the Dakota Mite and Church Society, was organized, with D. N. Gilliland president, Miss Lucinda Winters vice-president, Miss Mary Robillard secretary, and Miss Anna Eliza Lee treasurer. The society was

instrumental in many ways, bearing the pecuniary burden of the church.

The Sons of Temperance were organized in Dakota in 1878, with Peter Lee W.P., Alex. Necmiet secretary, Alfred Purdy treasurer, and Gardner Lee sentinel. The society flourished for three years, and accomplished a good work.

#### SICKNESS.

In May and June, 1882, the village of Dakota was visited by the most severe and alarming sickness that ever struck this healthy little town. Charley Dalton, while on a trip west of St. Paul, caught what was supposed to be the measles. After returning home he came down very sick. In a few days the whole town became helplessly prostrated. Physicians were called, who pronounced it the measles and a slight form of the scarlatina. For four weeks every family in town was so stricken there were not enough well to wait on the sick. The families most severely bereaved were Messrs. D. W. Peters and James Wilkinson's. Three of Mr. Peters' little girls — Carrie, Zolie and Hattie May, died within three weeks. Scarcely had the people returned from the grave of the latter of these little girls when the town was again thrown into mourning by the death of Joey Wilkinson, a little boy about four years old; and still another gloom by the death of a sister. The sickness spread to the surrounding vicinities, and was very severe in some families. The people had just recovered from the above when the death of Miss Sadie Sullivan, of Dakota, was announced. She had been sick some time with consumption. She was buried in the Catholic graveyard in Pine Creek.

Ashel Pearse was the first inhabitant to locate where the village of Dresbach now stands. He built his first log cabin in 1853, near the river, just where the Johnston and Sherwood's brickshed now stands. The log cabin has been moved just below the brickyard, and is now used as a cow-stable. While Pearse was building his cabin he was stopped by the Wabasha Indians, who looked upon the whites as intruders on their rights. After the Indians became reconciled, Pearse resumed his building and finished several log cabins.

#### FIRST ROAD.

The first road was built in the township by private parties, up and down the river. In 1854 a territorial road was surveyed through

the township, up and down the river. This was changed to a state road, soon after the admission of the state, and finally into a county road, under the county road statute.

## ACCIDENTS.

While Joseph Maynard, one of the original members of Dresbach, was hauling a load of corn-fodder, his team became frightened and ran away, upsetting the load on Mr. Maynard and breaking his leg. He lingered for several weeks, but died from the effects of his injuries, November 19, 1865. In April, 1878, Joseph Hoffman, a young man, accidentally fell off a log, at Dakota, and drowned in the Mississippi. In 1881, Jimmy McClane, while crossing the river at Dresbach, accidentally fell from his skiff and was drowned.

## GRAIN SHIPPED FROM DAKOTA.

The following figures show the amount of grain shipped from here annually since the railroad was built: 20,000 bushels of wheat, 7,000 bushels of barley, 4,000 bushels of oats.

The first schoolhouse in Dresbach was burned down in 1875. The present one was built the next year, at a cost of \$500. First cost \$300.

## DEPOT AGENTS.

The following persons have been depot agents at Dakota: Harvey Gates, J. B. O'Neil; D. C. Sheehan came in the fall of 1879, and remained until fall of 1881, when P. J. Sheehan, the present agent, succeeded him.

First marriage in the village of Dresbach was J. W. Tibbets and Catharine Isilla (Maynard) Tibbets. Marriage ceremony was performed by Elder Card, Baptist minister of La Crosse.

The first birth in the above village was that of Willie Morrison, son of William and Adaline Morrison.

## JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

The judicial history of the township begins with the election of Z. M. Caswell, first justice of the peace, in 1856. First court convened in Judge Caswell's office, in October, 1857. Next justice after Justice Caswell, and first under township organization act, was Terrence McCauly. He held the office twelve years. James Fletcher was also justice during part of the time McCauly held the office. Succeeding justices McCauly and Fletcher, William Patton,



formerly of New York, was elected to the bench, who occupied the seat six years, when he was succeeded by the election of E. S. Burns and G. B. Dresbach, Sr., to the honorable position which they have held for six years, and who yet occupy the tribunal bench of the township.

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## CHAPTER L.

NEW HARTFORD, RICHMOND, HOMER AND PLEASANT HILL TOWNSHIPS.

### NEW HARTFORD TOWNSHIP.

THE township of New Hartford was organized in 1858. Excepting a small corner of Sec. 1, the township embraces thirty-six entire sections. Its boundaries are, on the east, Dresbach township and the Mississippi river, on the west Pleasant Hill township, on the south Houston county, and on the north Richmond township.

The soil on the ridge land is a reddish clay, and in the valleys a black loam or muck. The surface is very much broken, high bluffs or hills and deep valleys and ravines follow each other in rapid succession. The products are wheat on the ridge land and corn, barley and oats in the valleys.

Pine creek enters the township in Sec. 18, flows southeast through New Hartford village, Secs. 19, 30, 29, and leaves the township in Sec. 32. Pine creek branch enters the township in Sec. 31, flows east and joins the main stream in Sec. 32.

Among the old settlers may be mentioned Nathan Brown, who came as early as 1849, and settled on what is now Sec. 1, of New Hartford township. Nathan Brown has lived, almost without any change whatever, in this one locality for thirty-three years.

H. W. Carroll came to the township in 1854, and settled on Pine creek. He now resides on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 6.

Geo. Johnson came in 1854, and settled in Rose Valley, Sec. 27. He now resides in Lane's valley on W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  Sec. 25. James Lane arrived the same year. He now lives on Sec. 35.

The year 1855 was noted for the arrival of the following: Helkiah Lilly, Jerry Tibbetts, Joseph Beach, Daniel Blankley, Myron Steadman and S. C. Dick. Helkiah Lilly entered the S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  Sec. 34, and has kept it until the present day. Jerry Tibbetts

settled on Sec. 4; Daniel Blankley secured the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 16; Myron Steadman entered the S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 6, while S. C. Dick settled on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 4.

There are ten district schools in the township: District 1 on Sec. 6, dist. 72 on Sec. 5, dist. 71 on Sec. 2, dist. 73 on Sec. 16, dist. 74 on Sec. 19, dist. 32 on Sec. 25, dist.—on Sec. 27, dist. 86 on Sec. 12, dist.—on Sec. 1, dist. 109 on Sec. 14.

The number of school-children in the township is said to be 250, but all are not in attendance.

The average crop for the year 1882 is as follows: Oats, per acre, 40 bushels; corn, per acre, 30 bushels, barley, per acre, 20 bushels; wheat, per acre, 12 bushels.

The first township meeting was held April 11, 1858.

Joseph Babcock, J. B. More and Joseph Goodyear were appointed as a board of supervisors.

The successive town clerks are: Elias Brickert, 1858-9; J. H. Leonard, 1859-62; Daniel Blankley, 1862-4; N. J. Wooden, 1864-5; Daniel Blankley, 1865-6; A. S. Dunning, 1866-73; L. Gerrish, 1873-4; Daniel Blankley, 1874-7; A. T. Bateman, 1877-81; W. H. Bateman, 1881-2; A. T. Bateman, 1882-3.

The board for 1882: Z. W. Nutting, John Shroeder, S. C. Dick, supervisors; R. D. Clow, Geo. Hiler, constables; Daniel Blankley, R. H. Sims, justices of the peace; O. D. Grant, assessor.

There are two cemeteries in the township, one on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 12, owned by Nathen Brown; another on Sec. 9, owned by Geo. Hiler. There are no churches in the township, services being held occasionally in the schoolhouses.

#### NEW HARTFORD VILLAGE.

New Hartford village lies on Sec. 19 of New Hartford township. It was laid out about 1856 by Henry Cushman, Daniel Clay and a man by the name of Reynolds. Mr. Reynolds owned the first house in the village. The first store was kept by Benj. Young.

No regular postoffice existed until about 1866, when a regular office was established, and H. Lilly appointed postmaster. He kept the office nine years. Henry Cushman built the first sawmill in 1856. Soon after, a gristmill was erected by H. Lilly and H. Cushman. This was about 1860. In one year H. Lilly bought out H. Cushman and run the mill three years alone. At this time it was purchased by Blumin Tritt, who has kept it ever since. Soon after

the village was laid out John Brodwell built a small shoeshop, but turned it into a schoolhouse and taught it himself. A log-school building was erected on Sec. 30 soon afterward. This was taught by Mrs. Tom Phelps. The present school was erected in the town about 1870. The first teacher was Lidia Basworth. Dimensions of the building 22×26 feet. This is used as a church. G. Lyon is the present postmaster; he also keeps the one store in the village. One blacksmith shop owned by I. Beach. One shoeshop run by G. A. Edin.

The town of New Hartford has an area of forty acres, and is traversed by Pine creek.

#### RICHMOND TOWNSHIP.

Richmond township lies in T. 106 N. and R. 5 W. Its boundaries are, on the east and north the Mississippi river, on the south New Hartford township, and on the west Homer township. Richmond is but a fractional township at most, being cut by the Mississippi into twelve complete and seven fractional sections. It was organized May 11, 1858. The members of the first board were: Town clerk, J. M. Dodge; chairman of supervisors, A. M. Gross; supervisors, Amos Shay, M. Dunning; assessor, J. M. Winn; collector, A. C. Dunning; constables, C. C. Willy, C. R. Howe; justices of the peace, B. F. Davis, N. D. Gilbert. There were forty votes cast at the first election. The following are the names of the successive township clerks: A. O. Gross, 1858-9; A. S. Dunning, 1859-62; J. Donehower, 1862-3; J. H. Davenport, 1863-65; O. Cram, 1865-6; C. A. Leach, 1866-69; Levi Brown, 1869-71; George Eagles, 1871-73; Edward Mott, 1873-75; J. P. Nevill, 1875-78; C. A. Leach, 1878-81; J. P. Nevill, 1881-2-3. The present township board: Chairman of supervisors, Amos Shay; supervisors, Henry Winter, Patrick Griffin; assessor, James Donehower; constable, A. B. Leach; justice of the peace, J. P. Nevill.

The surface of the township, like all the country immediately around, is very much broken; the soil is a clay loam. The products are wheat, corn, oats and barley. The average crop for the year 1882 was: Wheat, per acre, 15 bushels; corn, per acre, 60 bushels; oats, per acre, 40 bushels. Barley is raised in very small quantities. Richmond township is traversed by two creeks, Little Trout run and Richmond creek. Little Trout run rises in Sec. 32, flows northwest and leaves the township on Sec. 18. Richmond creek rises in Secs.

27 and 28, flows northwest, and empties into the Mississippi river near the village of Richmond.

M. Dunning was about the earliest settler in the township. He came to the village of Richmond in 1852; Amos Shay came in 1854; he remained in the village a short time and then removed to Sec. 27, where he has been engaged in farming until the present day. M. Dunning reached the village in 1852; in 1855 he removed to Sec. 28, where he may be found still. Edward Outhouse, in 1854, settled on Sec. 19. The farm is now in the hands of his children, he having died some time since. In 1856 Patrick Griffin settled on Sec. 18; he is still in possession of his farm. The N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 19 is owned by J. M. Gates, who took possession in November, 1857.

There are but two schools in the township, namely, district 47 on Sec. 17; district 46 on Sec. 21; number of school-children in the township, 24.

There never was a regular church in existence, but divine service has been held in the schoolhouses since 1857. They had circuit preaching by ministers of both Baptist and Methodist denominations. J. M. Winn, a Baptist minister, had his residence in the old village of Richmond in 1857.

The first road through the township was the present river road. The first marriage was that of Austin Dunning to Sydney Yalton. The value of the personal property in the township, according to the late returns, is \$12,000.

A discovery of a very valuable blue sandstone was made in 1882 on Sec. 21. It is being worked by an Ohio stone company; also a white sandstone (resembling marble and susceptible of high polish) and red ochre have been discovered.

#### RICHMOND VILLAGE

was laid out in 1855 by Fredrick Cushman, John Fortune and Henry Cushman. The plat stood on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 21, on the bank of the Mississippi river, and had an area of twenty acres. Among the old settlers in the village may be mentioned: M. Dunning, Isaac Nichols, H. Carroll, Thomas Gordon, Jacob Donehower, Andrew Mitchell and Amos Shay. John Fortune built a house in 1854, and his house was, without doubt, the first in the village. O. B. Dodge built a store devoted to general merchandise in 1855. He was soon followed by J. F. Martin, S. C. Dick and Jacob Donehower, each of whom owned a store of the same description.



Besides these, a Mrs. Jennings owned a small millinery establishment. Fredrick Cushman built the first sawmill in 1855. At the same time a blacksmith shop was run by Huttenhow. J. M. Winn was the village physician. The first school-building, the present district school, was erected in 1857. School has never been discontinued. "East Richmond," a rival to Richmond proper, was laid out in 1857 by A. Davenport and a Mr. Rodgers, just south of the first village on the same section. A few houses were built, but it was soon after abandoned. Richmond proper at that time was quite a town, but since then it has gradually decayed, houses have been torn down and removed entirely, until, at present writing, what once was a thriving little town, nothing remains but four shabby old dwellings and a small store kept by J. P. Nevill. Lamoille, a railway station on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway, is on the Mississippi river; it is two miles from Pickwick, a small town in Homer township.

#### HOMER TOWNSHIP.

Homer township was organized May 11, 1858. It lies in T. 106 and 107 W. and R. 6 N. It is bounded on the west by Wilson and Winona townships, on the south by Pleasant Hill township, on the east by Richmond township, and on the north by the Mississippi river. It comprises thirty-three complete sections and five fractional ones. The Mississippi river strikes the township on N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 31, and flows southeast through Secs. 1, 2 and 3. The surface is very much broken; the soil on the ridge land is clay, while in the valleys it is a black loam. The products are wheat, corn, oats and barley. The average per acre for the present year (1882) is as follows: Wheat, per acre, 12 bushels; corn, per acre, 60 bushels; oats, per acre, 35 bushels. Stone quarries may be found all along the river, but they are only worked occasionally.

The number of votes cast at the first election in the township was eighty-eight. The names of the first township officers are as follows: Charles Griswold, town clerk; S. Britton, collector; Samuel Britton, overseer of the poor; Jarard Baldwin, chairman of supervisors; Daniel Daugherty, G. W. Grant, supervisors; J. C. Norton, Ferdinand Cox, justices of the peace; J. C. Crane, Albert Preston, constables; Samuel Alling, assessor.

The first regular postoffice was kept by John Torry in 1857; the first marriage in the village, and no doubt the first in the township,

was that of a servant girl of Willard Bunnell named Rachil to Harry Herrick. This was in 1856. The population of Homer at present is sixty-four. There is one store, owned by Robert Norton, a blacksmith shop, run by Jacob Myres, and a doctor, J. Q. A. Vale. Robert Norton is the postmaster.

The succeeding town clerks were : S. A. Alling, 1860-62 ; R. F. Norton, 1862-3 ; John R. King, 1863-5 ; C. Howard, 1865-7 ; J. Q. A. Vale, 1867-70 ; S. A. Alling, 1870-2 ; J. Q. A. Vale, 1872-4 ; J. Q. A. Vale, 1874-82-3. The members of the present board are : W. I. Lamson, chairman of supervisors ; John Hanson, S. Gardner, supervisors ; R. F. Norton, treasurer ; F. B. Martin, assessor ; S. F. Alling, G. W. King, justices of the peace ; Nelson Breed, J. M. Rutherford, constables.

The township is traversed by two creeks, Cedar creek and Big Trout run. Cedar creek rises in the southwestern part of the township, flows northeast, and empties into the Mississippi river on Sec. 1. Big Trout run is formed by numerous springs in the southern part of the township ; at Pickwick it broadens into a small lake, and furnishes water-power for a large flour-mill ; from Pickwick the stream flows northeast, and leaves the township on Sec. 13. It finally terminates in the Mississippi on Sec. 8, in Richmond township.

The first settler in Homer township, and also the first in the county, was Willard Bunnell, who came in 1849, and settled on the present site of the village of Homer ; he was an Indian trader. C. F. Buck followed soon after and settled near by. This place was then called "Bunnell's Landing." Leonard Johnson came in 1852 and started up a wood-yard on a place just below Bunnell's landing called Johnson's point. John Lavine made his appearance at Minneoah, then a mushroom village just above Bunnell's landing, in 1853. In 1855 he settled on Sec. 11, in Cedar Creek valley, and remained there ever since. Peter Gorr came to the township in 1853, and settled on Sec. 18, in Gorr's valley, now known as Pleasant valley. In 1881 Peter Gorr removed to the old site of Minneoah, on the bank of the Mississippi. R. F. Norton came to Minneoah in 1854 ; he keeps a store at present writing in the village of Homer. Wm. Lamson, another old settler, reached the township in 1855.

The first road in the township reached from Willard Bunnell's place westward to the township line. It was begun in 1853 by private enterprise and completed in 1854. The first house in the town-

ship was owned by Willard Bunnell and stood at Bunnell's landing. Willard Bunnell also kept the first postoffice in his own house as early as 1853. The first birth in the township was that of Louisa Bunnell — born February 22, 1850. This was also the first birth in the county.

There are but two churches in the township, the Free Baptists in Pickwick village, built in 1881, and the Norwegian in Sec. 32, built 1870. Divine service is held in many of the schoolhouses, however, by circuit pastors. There are eight district schools in the township, viz: District 14 in Sec. 30, dist. 15 in Sec. 12, dist. 12 in Sec. 33, dist. 19 in Sec. 24, dist. 13 in Sec. 18, dist. 94 in Sec. 29, dist. 18 in Sec. 16, dist. 103 in Sec. 8.

Pickwick village, and indeed all Homer township, was very much agitated over news received in 1862 that the Indians were planning an attack upon the settlement. People came flocking from all parts of the township to the stone-mill in Pickwick, intending to use it as a fort. It was a false alarm, however, caused by untrue statements and exaggerated reports. The Indians were at the time on the war-path at Mankato, but Pickwick had no cause for alarm.

#### HOMER VILLAGE.

Homer village was laid out in 1855, by Willard Bunnell. It lies on Sec. 33, T. 107, R. 6. Willard Bunnell, who came in 1849, and C. F. Buck, were the first settlers in the village.

The first house was owned by W. Bunnell. Frank Wilson built the first store in 1855. Before the town was laid out this place was called Bunnell's landing, and a postoffice was kept in Mr. Bunnell's house. Another village, called Minneoah, was laid out just above Bunnell's landing in 1852. This place was abandoned at the laying out of Homer, but for a time there existed quite a small community. Among the merchants in Minneoah were Thomas J. Hough, who kept a store there in 1854. He was bought out by John Torrey. Charles and Royal Lovell also kept a store in 1854. A hotel existed, owned by Myron Toms. One doctor, J. C. Norton, had his office in the village. At the laying out of Homer this village was deserted. At the present writing nothing remains of it but two dwelling-houses.

Among the early settlers in Homer were Woodruff Griswold and Norton, who built a store in 1857. The same year they put up a warehouse. Ferdinand Cox had a small store in 1857. He sold

drugs and liquors. These stores were torn down and abandoned in 1860. In 1857 Jacob Myers built a blacksmith shop, which he has kept up until the present day. A sawmill was erected in 1868 by R. F. Norton, but was deserted in 1874. There was, however, a sawmill previous to this, owned and built by Hoxie Abel in 1860. A shoeshop was kept by a Mr. Ganes as early as 1859. A private school was in existence in the village from 1858 until 1860, but the first district school was built in 1857 on Sec. 33. The first teacher was Charles Smith.

## PICKWICK VILLAGE.

Pickwick was laid out in 1857. It stands on Sec. 13 of Homer township, at the head of a tiny lake formed by the expansion of Big Trout Run. It is almost surrounded by high bluffs, and is widely known for its picturesque situation. Big Trout Run flows northeast from the village, and its zigzag course can be traced for miles down the valley by the willows growing on its banks. The village was named after "Pickwick Papers," by Charles Dickens. Thomson Grant, who came in 1853, was the first settler in the village. The first store was owned by Ferdinand Cox, who came in 1855.

Thomson Grant and Wilson Davis were the principal land-owners in the village. Wilson Davis came in 1856. Thomson Grant owned the first house. There was at that time one wagon shop and one blacksmith shop. The blacksmith shop was owned and built by John Cripps in 1858. The wagon shop was worked by Joel Morrison. A sawmill and gristmill combined was erected in 1854 by Thomson Grant. The present flourmill was commenced in 1856 by Thomson Grant and Wilson Davis. A small building owned by the mill company was used as a school as early as 1858. Miss Lou Grant was the teacher. In 1861 a school was put up by the district. Miss Sarah Shorey was the teacher for several years. The present school, a frame building 24×44 feet, was built by the district in 1863. Charles Sufferins kept the first postoffice in 1858. At present writing Pickwick has two stores, a flourmill, one blacksmith shop, a hotel and a church. The stores are owned by Charles Sufferins and J. W. King respectively. John Cripps works the blacksmith shop. The hotel, quite a large building, is three stories high, and owned by George Outhouse. The mill is built of stone, is 45×60 feet, six stories high, and has a capacity of 100 bbls. of flour



per day. It is owned by Davis & Grannis. Near the mill is a beautiful little waterfall of twenty-eight feet.

Services have been held occasionally in the schoolhouse since it was built, and a Sunday school has been in existence since 1863. The present church was built through the instrumentality of Judson B. Palmer, state missionary of the Free Baptist church. It was erected in 1881. The dimensions are 30×50 feet, and has a spire about fifty feet tall. The first pastor was Rev. Given, who came in 1881 and remained six months. The church was then without a minister until Rev. L. Kerr came in 1882. The congregation now numbers 100 members. The average attendance of the Sunday school is thirty-five, with five teachers. They are in possession of a small library of about fifty volumes.

Pickwick has one secret society, Masonic Lodge, No. 110. The officers are: W.M., J. L. Finch; S.W., Leonard Johnson; J.W., Calvin Berry; S.D., E. B. Huffman; J.D., Joseph Sinclair; secretary, J. M. Rutherford; treasurer, John Spurbeck. The society was organized in 1874, and has a present membership of thirty-three.

#### PLEASANT HILL TOWNSHIP.

Pleasant Hill township, commonly described as No. 105 N., R. 6 W., contains thirty-six full sections of 640 acres each. It is situated on the ridge between the Mississippi and Root rivers. The old territorial road between La Crosse, Wisconsin, and Mankato, Minnesota, runs upon this ridge, entering the township at the southeast corner of section 36; thence pursuing a winding diagonal course it leaves the township about eighty rods south of the north line of section 7. The northeastern part of the township is drained by Trout creek, the northwestern part by branches of Cedar creek; both of these streams flow into the Mississippi river. The western part is drained by three branches of Money creek. The principal one is called Corey Valley creek, in honor of H. A. Corey, who settled just over the line in the edge of Wiscoy township. The southwestern and southern portions are drained by branches of Silver creek. The principal one of these streams is called Loony Valley Run. These streams flow into Root river. The eastern part is drained by the branches of Pine creek, known as north branch and south branch. They unite about one hundred rods east of Pleasant Hill township, at New Hartford post-office, and flow into the Mississippi river. This township was named

by Joseph Cooper, who came here in December, 1854, and made a claim. Some time in the spring of 1856 Mr. Cooper made application to the postoffice department at Washington for a postoffice, to be called Pleasant Hill. While awaiting the return from Washington, he and others organized a school district, and when asked by the county registrar of deeds at Winona for the name of the township, he turned to a neighbor, Mr. Reynolds, and asked what they should call the town. Mr. Reynolds said, "Call it the same as the postoffice." So he told the recorder it was Pleasant Hill.

The surface of the township is very uneven, the bluffs varying in height from 200 to 300 feet. Upon the crest of nearly every bluff can be found the well improved farms of the inhabitants, who are happy in the possession of their homes, and surrounded by all the comforts of industry, and the beneficence of an ever-merciful God. But it is by the views in the valleys that the eye is held as if by enchantment. Here upon the foot of the hills is seen the cozy farmhouse, built near some cool spring of water, surrounded by fruit and ornamental trees; while in the background are waving fields of golden grain, flanked with the deep green fields of maize, or still deeper shades of the woody heights covered with all the varieties of oak, elm, maple and hickory, interspersed with white birch and poplar, and clumps of shrub oaks, plum and crab-apple, draped with the heavily laden grape-vine, and beyond this the steep slopes covered with hazel-brush, while at every fence corner is found black or raspberry bushes, loaded with their ripening fruits. Turning the eye from the hillside to the dale, a more beautiful picture meets the view. Here is seen the babbling brook, sparkling in the sunshine as it pursues its winding course down the valley, rippling over its pebbly bottom at some steep descent, or tranquilly resting in some small eddy under a clump of alders or dogwood, inviting the spotted trout to a safe retreat from the pleasure-seeking angler, who, with jointed rod and horsehair line, is seen tossing his tempting bait into every available portion of the stream. While upon one side may be seen the beautiful pasture land, extending from the stream to midway of the hillside, covered with a smooth sod of bluegrass mixed with red and white clover, with here and there a stout old burr-oak or a magnificent elm affording ample shade to the white fleeced ewes as they quietly ruminant, surrounded by their sportive lambs, frisking about through sunlight and shadow, yet ever careful to keep away from that part of the enclosure where

the great, sleepy looking cows are cropping the juicy grasses, or stand chewing the cud in the shade of some of the little groves of alder, willow or plum-trees. Upon the other side the eye is charmed by the waving fields of redtop and timothy falling over the sickle of the mowing machine, while the spring-toothed horserake gathers it into large windrows, ready to be put into the mow for winter use. The farmhouse and barns, orchard and woodland, golden grain and waving maize, stream, pasture and meadow land, all unite in the sunshine to form a picture which no brush can paint and no pen describe. And although the township was quite properly named Pleasant Hill, it will always exist in the mind of the writer as the township of Pleasant Valleys.

The history of Pleasant Hill township since the first white man settled in it is one that will undoubtedly interest the majority of its present inhabitants, and will also be of general interest to the people of Winona county. The first man to build a house inside of the present limits of Pleasant Hill township, was Mr. John Hooper, who is frequently spoken of as "High-low" Hooper, from the fact that he could not converse in an even tone of voice, but would start a sentence in a low, gruff tone and change to a high key and back to a low one without apparently noticing it himself.

Mr. Hooper came to Pleasant Hill township by way of the north branch of Pine creek, in the summer of 1854, and selected a site near a fine spring of water. Here he built a log house and erected a blacksmith shop. He made a lot of ox-shoes during the autumn, and in December he started down Pine Creek valley with his tools and ropes for shoeing oxen, and wherever he met a man who wanted his oxen shod, he would cast the oxen, put on the shoes and go on his way rejoicing. He soon sold out his claim and followed blacksmithing in various places in Winona and Houston counties.

The first man to make a permanent home in the township was Mr. Joseph Cooper, who came to the "ridge" at the head of the south branch of Pine creek in December, 1854. Here he exclaimed, "What a pleasant hill!" and immediately made a claim of 160 acres of land, lying on the ridge and embracing the heads of South Branch and Money Creek valleys.

He at once commenced to chop and hew logs for a house, and on March 20, 1855, he had completed and moved into a log house 22×24 feet and one and one-half stories high. He was followed the

same spring by Michael Burns, Andrew Finch, Calvin Grant, Alexander Stedman and others.

Soon the sound of the woodman's ax was heard resounding throughout the length of the ridge, and what once had been the hunting grounds of the red-man now began to assume the appearance of white habitation. The pioneers had nothing to fear from wild animals, as there were none more ferocious than the timber or large grey wolf, which never attacked any of the settlers, though it would frequently follow them when out at night.

There was an abundance of wild game in the woods, and the unerring aim of the chopper (who always carried his rifle with him) often brought down a fine buck as it bounded through his small clearing. As an instance, showing the plenitude of deer in the early days, it is stated on authority that two young men named Armstrong killed 360 deer in the winters of 1855-6.

#### ROADS.

This township was better provided for with roads than most adjoining ones. The territorial road was "blazed," and had been traveled a few times with wagons. The first road ever laid out by the township was from the center of the east side of section eight (8) due east through sections nine (9) and ten (10), thence north about eighty (80) rods, thence east and northeast in a winding course to the line of New Hartford township. The topography of the country is such that it is almost impossible to build the roads in any direct line; but such is the energy and determination of the people that they spare neither labor nor expense, but excavate roads in the steep hillsides at a cost of from \$500 to \$800 per mile.

#### SCHOOLS.

The people showed an early determination to supply their children with an opportunity to obtain an education; and as early as the spring of 1856 an application was made to form a school district in Pleasant Hill township, to be located near the center of the township, and a plot for the same was drawn by Mr. Joseph Cooper. The plot included the majority of the inhabitants on the ridge at that time. The logs for the schoolhouse were cut early in the summer of 1856, but owing to some misunderstanding the house was not built till the spring of 1857.

The house was built of hewn logs, covered with oak shingles.



The only pine about the building was a blackboard and teachers' desk. To accommodate the pupils a row of holes was bored around the inside of the room, and hardwood pins were driven into these and oak boards laid on the pins. In this rather discouraging looking room Mr. Wm. D. Murray taught the first school, and there are many young men in the township at this time (1882) to testify to his ability and kindness. He is invariably spoken of as "Uncle Billy," and no one holds any grudge against him on account of misuse or ill-treatment, but all proclaim him as the man who was invincible in mathematics. It is pleasing to state that the old log house has been replaced with a very comfortable frame building, and although "Uncle Billy" has ceased to teach, he is still living in the township, and still interested in mathematics.

#### RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

The people who left the more prosperous parts of the east soon felt a need of spiritual as well as physical food. In the early part of March, 1856, several families in the northeast part of the township gathered at the house of Alexander Stedman for divine worship. Here Rev. Joseph F. Hamblen, a Free Will Baptist preacher, preached to them, and, assisted by his brother, Mr. Wm. B. Hamblen, an eccentric, self-styled missionary, he soon had a church organized, and regular services were held afterward. Soon after this a Methodist organization was formed in the northwest part of the township, but it soon united with members in Wiscoy township, and services were held at the joint schoolhouse, situated a few rods west of Pleasant Hill, in the town of Wiscoy.

In 1872 the people of Catholic persuasion decided to build a church in Pleasant Hill, and during the winter of 1872-3 a very neat building was erected on the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 21. The land was owned by Mr. Cooper, who at first gave one acre for church site. The congregation afterward purchased one acre, and now have a fine cemetery in the grounds adjoining the church. The church was dedicated in the winter of 1873-4 and styled St. Patrick's church. The first person buried in the cemetery was John McCaffrey, of Pleasant Hill.

There are also two Protestant cemeteries in Pleasant Hill; one situated on the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 11 is by far the finest one in the town. It contains two acres, and is pleasantly situated on the southeast slope of a beautiful hill and contains some very fine slabs and monu-

ments, designating the resting-places of the beloved departed. The first person that died in Pleasant Hill was a child of Geo. B. Nicholson. It died in the early part of December, 1856. Mr. Alexander Stedman took the coffin upon his horse, and followed by a few neighbors, also on horseback, carried it via of an old Indian trail, down the valley to Pickwick, where it was buried. It was afterward removed to this cemetery.

The other cemetery is in Sec. 22, but it is not so well cared for as the others, and is almost obscured by the small oak bushes which are allowed to grow in it. The first person buried here was Mr. Eddy, who immigrated to this country in 1855.

The first and only store ever kept in this township was in a frame building 18×24 ft.; moved in sections from Richmond, Minnesota, to the northwest corner of the southwest quarter of section nine (9), where it was filled with dry goods and groceries by Martin & Banks in the summer of 1859, and was profitably run till the early spring of 1864, when the store and contents were consumed by fire, since which no attempt has been made to open another store.

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## CHAPTER II.

WISCOY, WILSON, WARREN AND HILLSDALE TOWNSHIPS.

### WISCOY TOWNSHIP.

Wiscoy township lies in T. 105, R. 7. Its boundaries are, on the north Wilson township, on the east Pleasant Hill township, on the south Houston county, and on the west by Hart township. It comprises thirty-six complete sections. The surface, like that of the neighboring country, is very much broken. Money Creek valley, a deep valley running almost north and south, is traversed by a stream which bears its name. There are two branches of this creek, the east branch and west branch. The main stream enters the township on Sec. 35. The east branch flows north through Secs. 27, 26 and 24, while the west branch traverses Secs. 28, 29, 20, 16. This subdivides and flows north through Secs. 8, 9, 7 and 5. The soil is productive, raising wheat, corn, oats and barley. The average crop is said to be, wheat per acre, 15 bushels; corn 50

bushels; oats, 40 bushels; barley, "small quantities." Timber is plentiful throughout the township. There are but three district schools in Wiscoy, namely, on Secs. 12, 16 and 27. There are in all about 150 pupils in the township. The first school was the one now standing on Sec. 12, built 1857. The first teacher was Rufus Thomas. There is one cemetery in Wiscoy, standing on Sec. 16, laid out in 1866. A Methodist Episcopal church stands on Sec. 12. It has a very small membership, and its insignificant history is enveloped in comparative obscurity. Wiscoy has two flourmills, one standing on Sec. 29, owned by Judson Wells (a frame building erected in 1856, and having a capacity of fifty barrels per day). Another mill owned by L. J. Clark, built 1865, stands on Sec. 16, and has a capacity of forty barrels per day. The first postoffice in Wiscoy was kept by Benton Aldrich as early as 1857 on Sec. 36. James Clark took charge of the office in 1873, and has been postmaster since that time. The first settler in Wiscoy was Ira A. Boianton, who came in 1855 and settled on Sec. 12. Ira Boianton is now dead, but the farm is in the hands of his children and widow. A. F. Hill arrived the same year and took up a farm on the same section. H. A. Corey and Lemuel Abell came to Wiscoy the same year (1855). H. A. Corey settled on Sec. 24, in Money Creek valley. He is still living and in possession of his farm. Lemuel Abell settled on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 3. O. G. Morrison arrived in 1857 and entered a part of Sec. 27. Both Lemuel Abell and O. G. Morrison have kept their farms without changing hands. The township was organized and the first meeting held May 10, 1858. Rufus Thomas was appointed town clerk. The members of the first board were: Lemuel Abell, Joseph Brooks, supervisors; H. A. Corey, assessor; Franklin Vidits, collector; James Greenfield, overseer of the poor; Calmer Harris, Edward Taylor, justices of the peace; Esben Skinkle, A. B. Watsen, constables. The town clerks in order: Rufus Thomas, 1858-9; S. G. Jones, 1859-60; C. A. Fuller, 1860-62; C. A. Wheeler, 1862-65; M. S. Wood, 1865-67; C. A. Wheeler, 1867-8; D. W. Pickart, 1868-9; S. G. Jones, 1869-72; James Clark, 1872-82-3. Present board: E. Skinkle, Charles Waldo, B. C. Walling, supervisors; Daniel Cook, justice of the peace; Wm. Morse, Albert Warner, constables; Daniel Cook, treasurer.

#### WITOKA VILLAGE.

Witoka was laid out in 1855 by Geo. W. Morse, L. Thomas and David Parker. It lies on Sec. 35 and comprises an area of fifty-

eight acres. It was known at first by the name of Centerville, but was afterward changed to Witoka. L. Thomas came May 16, 1855, and built the first house in the village. He also put up a store for the sale of general merchandise. The same year Calvin Ford came and started a store also. A blacksmith shop was built at this time by Wm. Jones, who was followed by Harvey Bourne. The first postoffice was established in 1856; L. Thomas was the postmaster. During the first year he carried the mail at his own expense, but at the end of that time a mail route was established. The first marriage was that of Becky Smith to Wm. More in 1857. In 1856 a small dwelling-house was built which was turned into a school-house. This school was taught by Rufus Thomas. A district school was erected in 1857; the first teacher was Charlotte French. There was a doctor in the village at this time, Dr. Samuel Miller. Divine service was held as early as 1855, in the house of L. Thomas, presided over by Rev. Cogswill. The next year, 1856, a series of sermons were delivered every four weeks by Elder L. Babcock, in the same place. After this meetings were held in the schoolhouse, by both Methodist and Baptist ministers. The first hotel in Witoka, a large frame building, was owned by L. Thomas, and was burned in 1877. At present there are two towns, known respectively as West or Old Witoka and East or New Witoka. All the residence part of the village is in West Witoka, while the business part, stores, hotel, etc., lies in East Witoka. East Witoka lies directly on the line between Wilson and Wiscoy townships. When the Pleasant Valley road was laid out in 1878, all the stores, etc., left the old town and came over to East Witoka. At present writing there are two stores in East Witoka, kept respectively by O. Abell and George Yongs; two blacksmith shops, owned by Phillip Bourne and B. Bragg; two wagon shops, worked by B. Bragg and Walter Crandell; a large brick hotel two stories high, run by L. Thomas. The dimensions of the hotel are  $34 \times 24$  feet, with a wing  $26 \times 18$ . The postmaster is O. Abell. A fine graded school was built in West Witoka in 1868. It is a frame building with a dimension of  $80 \times 30$  feet. The school has two departments; the "principal" is W. Wilbur, with Emma Strayer as "assistant." J. Crandall is the village physician. There is one church in West Witoka, the Congregational. The building was intended for the use of a grangers' hall, but was sold in 1879 to the church. Rev. Elmer was the first pastor; he was replaced in 1880 by the present



pastor, H. A. Bushnell. A Sabbath school exists in connection with the church, with an average attendance of sixty-five pupils. Henry Kader is the superintendent. There is one society in Witoka, the "Witoka Grange." This association was organized in 1870, with a membership of 144. The officers for 1882 were: G. M. Riley, worthy master; J. E. Balch, secretary; H. Neman, treasurer. Its object is mutual protection from monopolies and exorbitant charges for transportation.

#### WILSON TOWNSHIP.

Wilson township lies in T. 106 and R. 6. It is bounded on the north by Winona township, on the south by Wiscoy township, on the east by Homer township and on the west by Warren township. The surface is very much broken, and is divided by the bluffs into two valleys running north and south. These valleys are traversed by two creeks, West Burns Valley creek and East Burns Valley creek. West Burns Valley creek rises in Sec. 15 and flows northeast through the valley, and joins the east branch on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 3. East Burns Valley creek has its source in Sec. 9, flows north to Sec. 3, where the two unite and leave the township on Sec. 2. The soil is productive and wheat, corn, oats and barley are raised. In an early day this land was thickly covered with timber, which has now been to a great extent cut down. The township comprises thirty-six complete sections, and measures six miles in each direction. It was organized May 11, 1858, with W. W. Kelly as town clerk. The officers appointed at this first meeting were: J. S. Wilson (chairman), D. McDougall, Myron Toms, supervisors; M. W. Crittendon, assessor; Amos Shepherd, collector; William Jones, overseer of the poor; William Jones, Alvin Lufkins, constables; Renel D. Fellows, Dexter Shepherd, justices of the peace.

At this first meeting there were seventy-seven votes cast. The following are the town clerks in order up to the year 1882: W. W. Kelly, 1858-60; J. A. Gile, 1860-1; E. P. Wait, 1861-2; James Lynn, 1862-3; Mason Leet, 1863-4; J. C. Brown, 1864-5; James Lynn, 1865-6; Norris Grey, 1866-7; J. A. Gile, 1867-8; R. D. Fellows, 1870-2; Joseph Bockler, 1872-3; R. D. Fellows, 1873-4; Joseph Bockler, 1874-8; R. D. Fellows, 1878-81; J. E. Balch, 1881-2-3. The board for the year 1882 were: J. Moran, Arnold Gernes, John Nevill, supervisors; J. C. Brown,

assessor ; Wm. A. Abell, Fred. Dobbblestein, constables ; Theodore Searle, Andrew Gerlicher, justices of the peace.

The average crop for the year 1882 is said to be, oats per acre, 45 bushels ; wheat per acre, 12 bushels ; corn per acre, 40 bushels ; barley per acre, 20 bushels.

Wilson township has seven district schools ; they stand on the following sections : 18, 13, 20, 28, 31, 32, 35. The county poor farm is in this township ; it lies on Sec. 6 at the head of Gilmore valley. There are four churches in Wilson township, namely, Congregational, on Sec. 35 (village of Witoka) ; Evangelist (German), on Sec. 28 ; German Catholic and Lutheran.

There are two postoffices in Wilson township, one at Witoka, O. Abell, postmaster ; another on Sec. 29 is kept by Henry Blaiser — this is known as Wilson postoffice. The first house in the township was built by J. Giles in 1854 on Sec. 29. Frank Brown was the first child born, in 1854. The postoffice now known as Wilson postoffice was first called Wayland postoffice, and was kept by John F. Giles. John Giles was no doubt the first man to settle in Wilson ; he came as early as 1853 and entered a part of what is now Sec. 29. He was, however, dissatisfied with his claim, and removed, but returned again in 1854. The year 1855 was marked by the entrance of a large number of land-seekers. J. C. Walker, Antone Schoebe, Joseph A. Hilbe, Joseph Heller, Wm. Bergman, Sr., Wm. Bergman, Jr., Louis Keller, Levi Winget, Jerry Moran, R. D. Fellows, Michael Koenig, Henry Benig, Lauren Thomas and Henry Heublin all were among the number.

John Nevill is said to have come in 1854, one year earlier than the above. J. C. Walker entered a part of Sec. 1 ; his farm has since been sold, and is known as "Hamilton's farm." Antone Schoebe and Joseph Hilbe took up land in East Burns valley. Joseph Heller entered land at the head of Rolling Stone valley. Louis Keller settled on Sec. 28, where he can be found still. Henry Benig settled on Sec. 30 and Michael Koenig on Sec. 21. The flour-mill now owned by M. J. Laird, of Winona, was the first and only mill in Wilson.

#### WARREN TOWNSHIP.

Warren township lies in T. 106 N. and R. 8 W. Its boundaries are as follows : On the north Hillsdale township, on the east Wilson township, on the south Hart township, and on the west Utica township. The surface in the north and northeastern part is

very much broken, while the remainder forms a level prairie. The soil is good and the products are wheat, corn, oats and barley. Warren is traversed by two branches of Rolling Stone creek. The east branch rises in Sec. 26, flows north through Secs. 23, 14, 11, 10, 3 and 2, leaving the township on Sec. 3. The west branch rises in Secs. 7 and 8, flows northeast through Sec. 5 and leaves the township on Sec. 5. Warren is also cut by the Winona & St. Peter railway, which enters the township on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 4, runs southwest through Secs. 5, 18, 17 and 8, and leaves it on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 18. Warren has no village settlements whatever. There are two postoffices, each in the southern portion of the township. Wyattville postoffice is in Sec. 33; it was established about 1859, with Hiram Wyatt as postmaster. Frank Hill postoffice was established at the same time, with A. B. Dunlap as postmaster. About 1862 two other postoffices were in existence, one in Sec. 19 and the other in Sec. 20. The one in Sec. 19 was known as North Warren, and kept by L. C. Ferrin; the one in Sec. 20 was kept by Hiram Paris, and was known simply as Warren postoffice. Both of these were abandoned soon after their establishment. In 1856 a large hotel or tavern was kept for the accommodation of travelers by James McQuestion on Sec. 20. This hotel was burned some time in 1865. A store devoted to general merchandise was owned and run by Farrar & Russell in 1859 on Sec. 33. This has been abandoned long since. A flour-mill was built in 1857; this was at first used as a sawmill, but was converted into a gristmill in 1865. This mill stands on Sec. 4, and is owned by William Duncanson; its capacity is very small.

Leonard George kept a school in 1856 in a private house which stood on Sec. 21. The next school was kept by Margaret Grey in a little schoolhouse built on Sec. 31 in 1857. Susan Buswell taught the next in 1858; this was in Sec. 20.

William Duncanson came to Warren township in the spring of 1854 from La Crosse. The first wagon track was made by him through this section on June 5, 1854. He settled on what is now the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 20. In the fall of 1854 Theodore, son of Wm. Duncanson, was born; this was undoubtedly the first birth in the township. The first laid-out road was that known then as the territorial road, running from Chatfield through Rush Creek and Sec. 20 to Stockton.

Church service was first held in the various schoolhouses. At

present there are the following churches : Methodist, in Sec. 20 ; Presbyterian, in Sec. 36 ; Brethren, in Sec. 19. To each of these is attached a cemetery.

William Duncanson, of whom mention has been made, was the oldest settler in Warren. He came in June, 1854. He was followed in the fall by Jacob Duncanson, his brother. Jacob Duncanson, with his family, settled on Sec. 21 ; Oliver Panger and A. J. Ayers arrived at the same time and entered part of Sec. 19. The following made their appearance in 1855 : Joseph Mixter, Lucius Brainerd, Frederick Hall, Moses Stickney, Hiram Wyatt, Sylvester Frink, E. B. Jewett, Mortimer Gage and H. P. Archer. The following came in 1856 : Theodore Warnkan, Arnt Warnkan, John Demoung and Jessie Wheeler.

Warren township has six district schools : Sec. 8, district 40 ; Sec. 12, dist. 111 ; Sec. 19, dist. 36 ; Sec. 21, dist. 39 ; Sec. 32, dist. 6 ; Sec. 34, dist. 5.

The first meeting was held and the township organized May 11, 1858. G. W. Gleason was appointed town clerk. The board elected : Supervisors, A. P. Hoit, L. B. Terrin, T. Thayer ; constable, W. P. Thayer ; overseer of the poor, Sylvester Frink ; justice of the peace, Jesse Wheeler ; collector, I. N. Farrar ; assessor, Lucius Brainerd. The town clerks in succession were G. W. Gleason, M. P. Thayer, E. B. Jewett, B. S. Gross, W. N. Buswell, E. M. Buswell, W. N. Buswell, E. M. Buswell, W. N. Buswell, E. B. Jewett, M. P. Thayer, H. C. Wilbur, J. A. Ginther, H. D. Gage, John Kenny, H. C. Wilbur (present clerk). Board elected in 1882 were as follows : Supervisors, E. M. Buswell, Edward Markle, Wm. Felzer ; constables, Fred. Janzow, Edward Albert ; justices of the peace, John L. Farrar, John Miller ; assessor, J. L. Farrar ; treasurer, Almon Sartwell.

A stone-quarry, on Sec. 3 of Warren township, employs from 200 to 400 men during the summer months. A variety of limestone, very valuable for building purposes, is taken from this quarry. It is owned by the Chicago & Northwestern railway, and has been worked for four years.

*Brethren Church of Warren township.*—This church was organized in the year 1855, with the following official members : Phillip Ramer, elder ; David Whetstone, deacon, and Christian F. Wirt, pastor. The lay members were Stephen Thackery and wife, Solomon Ramer and wife, Peter Ramer and wife, Daniel Ramer and



wife, Andrew Reterman and wife. The membership at first numbered sixteen. It is impossible to give the complete history of this church, as the record has not always been kept. This much, however, is known. In the first three years of its organization four members died and several removed from the country, while a few deserted the church and united with the Advents. The church up to 1874 held service in the schoolhouse. In 1874 a building was erected to be used as a church. It was a frame structure, 30×50 feet. They possessed a plot of one and a half acres for church and cemetery. The new church cost \$1,600, and stands on Sec. 19. A Sabbath school connected with the church is in a good condition.

*Presbyterian (German) Church of Warren township.*—Regularly organized in 1873. Prominent original members: John Lafky, Peter Hertzworm, Paul Loerch, John Lafky, Jr. The church is a frame building, put up in 1874. It is forty feet long and twenty-four feet wide, and stands on Sec. 36. Connected with the church is eight acres of land and a cemetery. The ministers in order are John L. Funk, Jacob Schaefer, John Leirer, August Bush. A neat frame parsonage is connected with the church. The membership is said to be twenty-four.

#### HILLSDALE TOWNSHIP.

Hillsdale is but one-half of an entire township comprising eighteen complete sections in all. Its boundaries are, on the north Rolling Stone, on the east Winona, on the south Warren, and on the west Norton. It is six miles long and three miles wide. On the north, east and south portions the surface is broken, while to the northwest there is a slight prairie land or "grubb land" as it is sometimes called. It has a limestone soil composed of a rich dark loam. One of the early pioneers, while breaking land on the present site of Stockton, dropped potatoes along in the furrows as he plowed and at the same time turned the sod over them. The land was not touched again until fall, when out of the one-fourth acre of land he dug 110 bushels of potatoes. (The richness of the soil can be imagined.) Timber was plentiful at first, especially along the streams. There were several kinds of oak besides hickory and butternut. Oak is plentiful still. Among the animals were deer, red-fox, prairie-wolf, badgers, woodchucks and beavers in the streams. The early pioneers, shut out almost entirely from the east except in summer, found it difficult to secure provisions. Deer and

prairie-chickens were numerous, and venison was a great article of food. Potatoes alone brought \$1.40 per bushel, and other things in proportion. Timber was plentiful, but lumber was scarce. J. H. Swindler says he built him a house in 1855, 14×16 feet, out of 1,200 feet of lumber; the dimension pieces and framework were taken from the neighboring woods. The earliest settlers were a few of the members of the "Western Farm and Village Association" of New York city. S. D. Putnam, Charles Bannan and Lawrence Dilworth all came in 1852, and were members of the above company. S. A. Houck, O. H. Houck and John McClintock came in 1853. In 1855 J. J. Matteson, John Hart, C. Hertzberg, Jabez Churchill and J. H. Swindler arrived. S. D. Putnam entered the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 27 in June, 1852. Charles Bannan entered a part of Sec. 23 and John McClintock a part of Sec. 27. Lawrence Dilworth settled on Sec. 23, J. J. Matteson on Sec. 26 and John Hart on Sec. 23.

What is now known as district 31 on Sec. 23 is said to have been the first school in Hillsdale. It was built early in 1857 by private subscription, the districts not being organized at that time. The schools at present, with their section and districts, are: District 81 on Sec. 31, dist. 97 on Sec. 30, dist. 31 on Sec. 23, dist. 110 on Sec. 36, dist. 17 on Sec. 34. The average number of pupils in Hillsdale for 1882 is 203.

A grist-mill was built in 1865 on Sec. 26, by Benjamin Sherry. It was two and one-half stories high and had two run of burrs. It stood on Rolling Stone creek. At present writing it is owned by H. W. Jackson. The Winona & St. Peter railway runs through the township in a northeasterly and southwesterly direction. It has a station at Stockton. Hillsdale is also traversed by Rolling Stone creek, which enters the township on Sec. 34, flows north through Secs. 27 and 26, and leaves the township on Sec. 23.

The township was organized and the first board appointed May 11, 1858: J. B. Alexander, town clerk; L. R. King, James Gwinn, M. Collins, supervisors; J. B. Morehead, assessor; O. D. Hicks, collector; Henry Wiseman, overseer of the poor; T. Q. Gage, justice of the peace; S. T. Gwinn, J. Schmettyer, constables. Successive town clerks: J. B. Alexander, C. E. Gage, J. B. Alexander, A. S. Gregory, George Little, John A. Moore, J. N. Byington. Wm. H. Churchill, George S. Wiseman, J. N. Byington, H. W. Mowbray, B. Dripps, F. A. Thomas, James Mitchell (present town clerk). Present board: John Monk, W. H. Jackson, H. J. Krans-

key, supervisors; S. T. Gwinn, John Midler, constables; James King, Henry Kranskey, justices of the peace; James King, collector; George McNutt, treasurer.

#### STOCKTON VILLAGE.

The village of Stockton, in Hillsdale township, was laid out in the summer of 1856, although the land was pre-empted in 1855; J. B. Stockton, Wm. Davidson and Wm. Springer were the proprietors. The town was named after J. B. Stockton; Stockton stands on the E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Sec. 34. The plat is one mile long and one-half mile wide, and embraces an area of 320 acres. Rolling Stone creek enters the town plat on the west and flows northeast through the village. Stockton stands in the main Rolling Stone valley, sometimes spoken of as the "west branch."

In the summer of 1855 H. A. Putnam emigrated to this section with his family, and built a frame building, 24×18 feet, which was used both as a dwelling and as a store for general merchandise. This was undoubtedly the first house erected. Among the early residents may be mentioned: George Gregory and family, Rev. Wm. Poling, John Dacon (blacksmith), Andrew Miller (carpenter), Henry Parrot (wagonmaker), Robert Curtis (blacksmith), Henry Wiseman and John Alexander. Wiseman and Alexander owned a carpenter and wagon shop in 1857. The year 1858 was marked by the grading of the "Transit railway" (now Winona & St. Peter), which cut through the town. The population were pleased with the new venture and were anxious for its completion, but when the company failed and were unable to pay their bills for labor and goods, the enterprise was looked upon with disfavor. The road was then purchased by the Winona & St. Peter company, and completed in 1861.

J. B. Stockton was the proprietor of the first hotel in 1856. Wm. Dodge was the first postmaster in Stockton. The office was kept in 1856 just south of the town line. The present mill was built in the shape of a sawmill in 1855, by Wm. Dodge. In 1857 it was sold to Starbuck & Jones, who converted it into a gristmill with two run of burrs. In 1859 it passed into the hands of Hugh Sherry, who sold a half interest to Dr. S. B. Sheardown. It was run by the above for five years, when it was purchased by Mowbray & Sons, the present possessors. In 1879 the old burrs were abandoned and new patent rolling and crushing machinery put in. The capacity is

now 250 bbls. per day. Rolling Stone creek supplies half the power, the remainder is secured by steam-engines. The mill is a frame structure, three stories high, and doing a lively business. The first school, a frame building, 20×28 feet, was built in 1857, and was taught by Albert Thomas. The present school, a large frame building, was built in 1875. It has a dimension of 28×50 feet. There are two departments, a primary and intermediate department. Two teachers and an average attendance of 100 pupils. This school is doing some good work.

Present merchants are as follows: Thomas & Swindler, general merchandise, also drugstore; Sheardown & Sheardown, general merchandise and drugs; James Mitchell, hardware and boots and shoes; Simon Ramm, general merchandise. Two physicians, namely, Dr. S. B. Sheardown, Sr.; Dr. T. B. Sheardown, Jr. Two blacksmith shops kept by Christopher Lowerish and Geo. McNutt.

Stockton has two churches, the Episcopal and Methodist. The services of the Episcopal church were held at first in the schoolhouse at Stockton. The first minister was Rev. Benj. Evans. The congregation was regularly organized in 1859, and a church building was erected the same year. This structure is of frame, 32×42 feet, with a spire forty-five feet high. Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Bond, Wm. H. Bayard and family, J. A. Moore and family and John Monk and family were the prominent original members. For several years the church has been without a regular minister. Rev. Joseph Hilmer, of Winona, has charge of the congregation at present.

Methodist church meetings were held in Stockton's Hotel as early as 1856, Rev. A. J. Nelson presiding. These were continued until 1857, at the building of the schoolhouse, when it was used. Rev. Wm. Poling was appointed minister by the conference in 1857. A frame church was built in 1872; dimensions, 40×32 feet; tower or belfry, fifteen feet (above roof). Rev. Wm. H. Soule was the first minister appointed for the new church. Present membership, forty-four.

A Sabbath school was organized in 1856 by Mrs. H. A. Putnam, in her own house. The present school has a membership of fifty, with five teachers. Rev. W. A. Miles is the minister for 1883.

*Temperance Society.*—Refuge Division of the Sons of Temperance, No. 71.

This society was chartered in 1876, with twenty-five charter members. For quite a while this was a flourishing society and did



much good for the community, but at present it has fallen into decay. The officers are : W. H. Thomas, W.P.; Mrs. Mary Blair, R.S.; Lella McNutt, F.S.; Frank Mitchell, I.S.; Alex. Torrence, O.S.; F. E. Blair, Treas.; Geo. Rissinger, Chap. Charter members at present, forty.

*Lyceum*.—A literary and debating society, organized for mutual benefit. Officers: S. B. Sheardown, president; W. H. Thomas, secretary; R. H. Allen, treasurer.

Stockton cemetery, having an area of two acres, was laid out in 1860, at the north end of the town plat. The main streets are four rods wide, excepting Broadway, which is six rods wide. The alleys are sixteen feet. The population is said to be 383.

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## CHAPTER LII.

NORTON, MOUNT VERNON, WHITEWATER AND ELBA TOWNSHIPS.

### NORTON TOWNSHIP.

THIS township when organized, May 11, 1858, was given the name of Sumner. It was afterward changed to Jefferson and finally to Norton, its present name. The town line passing through its center locates it in T. 107, while the range places it in 9 west. It is bounded on the north by Mt. Vernon, on the east by Rolling Stone and Hillsdale, on the south by Utica and on the west by Elba. The surface in the central and southern parts is what is known as rolling, open land, and contains some of the best land in the county. While in the eastern portion the land is very much broken.

Rolling Stone valley, traversed by a branch of Rolling Stone creek, is in this locality. This valley is said to be from 400 to 500 feet deep. The scenery is wild and romantic. The wagon road winds around, in and out along the edges of frightful precipices and under immense overhanging rocks hundreds of feet overhead. A great attraction in this valley or ravine is a large cave which reaches over a quarter of a mile underground, and is filled with stalactites and curious stones. Elm, ash, basswood, oak, hickory, and some maple, are found along this valley. On the high land water is very scarce. The water is hauled from the valleys and put in large

cisterns, or in some cases wells are drilled 500 feet deep through the rock, and the water drawn up with a windmill. When the early pioneers made their appearance in 1855 wolves were numerous, and black bears were seen occasionally. Deer have been known to come up and eat along with the cattle, and one old settler had a large flock of quail that he fed regularly near his cabin.

Out of a large number of pioneers that made their homes in this locality there are scarcely a half-dozen remaining. A large number have died, and a large number have sold their farms and emigrated to Dakota. Wm. Sweet entered what is now the S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 32, in the early part of May, 1852. It will be of interest to note that this was the first claim made back of the bluffs from the Mississippi river in Winona county. John Van Hook is the next man supposed to have made his appearance. In 1854 he pre-empted what is now S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 30. Allos Schwager, Adam Hick, John Monk, Wm. Ruprecht, Pardon Spooner, J. R. Warner and Michael Moore, all came the next year (1855). Allos Schwager settled in Rolling Stone valley on what is now Sec. 15. Adam Hick took up N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 28; John Monk the S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 36; Michael Moore the S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 22; J. R. Warner the S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 33; Pardon Spooner the S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 32, while Wm. Ruprecht settled on Sec. 25. Peter Epelding came in 1855, and settled on Sec. 24; J. P. and H. N. Hilbert came in 1855, and settled on Sec. 12. Each of the above were prominent among the early pioneers.

A postoffice was kept as early as 1864 by Fredrich Gensmer. Ely Turner succeeded him in 1866. The postoffice was abandoned some time in 1868. Since then Norton has been without a post-office. Wm. Ruprecht built a sawmill in 1860, on Sec. 25, on Rolling Stone creek. The water-power at that point was found to be excellent, so in 1875 it was turned into a gristmill with two run of burrs. This was a frame building, 34×20 feet, and two stories high. In 1882 the mill was enlarged and new patent rolling and crushing machinery was added. The mill has a custom business principally. Norton has no village organization, no physician, no lawyer, and above all no saloon.

There are five district schools, namely, District 28 in Sec. 28, dist. 127 in Sec. 27, dist. 26 in Sec. 13, dist. 101 in Sec. 17, dist. 100 in Sec. 8. Besides these there is one German Catholic school on Sec. 31. This school was organized by private enterprise. There are three churches in the township. German Lutheran on Sec.

27, Brethren church on Sec. 8, and the German Methodist Episcopal on Sec. 5 (now abandoned). The German Lutheran church is a white frame building with a neat exterior appearance. It stands on Sec. 27, and was built in 1878. It is 28×40 feet, and has a spire 60 feet in height. They have a school building 18×24 feet, and a parsonage, besides two acres of land. School has been kept since 1878,—a German district school in summer and an English school in winter. Congregation of the church numbers about fifteen families. They have circuit preaching at present. Rev. Otto Koch, of Lewiston, is the present minister.

There are two cemeteries in Norton, one attached to the Lutheran and another to the Brethren church. At present the population are mostly Prussian Germans. Some of these have been known to come in with nothing but a few head of cattle, and by hard work and perseverance have secured themselves large and valuable farms. Three hundred votes were cast at the last election in the township.

#### MOUNT VERNON TOWNSHIP.

T. 108, R. 9, was settled about the same time as the adjoining towns, more particularly Minneiska, in Wabasha county, which bounds it on the west. Some of the earliest settlers were Whiteman, Deacon Smith, Brizius and Patrick Murray, in Trout valley, Williams and Smith on the ridge, who were quickly followed by others, and all the available land was soon taken up. Not a section of the township but what is more or less productive and under cultivation. The Trout valley intersects it, running almost north and south, while the eastern and western portions are considerably broken by valleys, containing considerable timber, while on the ridges is to be found good prairie land.

#### ORGANIZATION.

The first town meeting was held at the house of S. N. Burns, May 11, 1858, and the following officers were elected: G. A. Whiteman, Patrick Murray, H. C. Jones, supervisors; G. A. Whiteman, chairman of supervisors; Charles Smith, town clerk; Samuel Bullard, assessor; Lyman Lovel, collector; M. Malmson, overseer of poor; John Montgomery, justice.

The following is the list of gentlemen who have filled the positions of chairman of supervisors and town clerk up to 1883:

YEAR.	CH. OF SUPERVISORS.	TOWN CLERK.
1858.....	G. A. Whiteman.....	Charles Smith.
1859.....	H. C. Jones.....	Charles Smith.
1860.....	G. Bullard.....	Charles Smith.
1861.....	H. C. Jones.....	Charles Smith.
1862.....	P. Murray.....	Charles Smith.
1863.....	P. Murray.....	Charles Smith.
1864.....	S. M. Bullard.....	Charles Smith.
1865.....	Joseph Taylor.....	Charles Smith.
1866.....	S. M. Bullard.....	Charles Smith.
1867.....	S. M. Bullard.....	Charles Smith.
1868.....	C. H. Molecha.....	Charles Smith.
1869.....	S. Speakman.....	J. H. Williams.
1870.....	A. Steavor.....	J. H. Williams.
1871.....	A. Steavor.....	N. W. Osborn.
1872.....	S. Bullard.....	N. W. Osborn.
1873.....	S. Bullard.....	N. F. Richards.
1874.....	John Valentine.....	J. H. Williams.
1875.....	John Valentine.....	J. H. Williams.
1876.....	Peter Speltz.....	J. H. Williams.
1877.....	Peter Speltz.....	J. H. Williams.
1878.....	S. Bullard.....	J. H. Williams.
1879.....	S. Bullard.....	N. Schell, Jr.
1880.....	S. Bullard.....	N. Schell, Jr.
1881.....	J. H. Williams.....	N. Schell, Jr.
1882.....	J. H. Williams.....	N. Schell, Jr.

## ROADS.

Good roads are constructed on the ridges and in the valleys, and considerable money has been expended on the improvement. The first road laid out by the township was ordered July 5, 1858, four rods wide, commencing at Sec. 17 and running two miles through the Trout valley.

## SCHOOLS.

There are four school districts with four good substantial school-houses; the first one built was at Oak Ridge. Previous to the erection of any schoolhouse, or opening of any public school, the wife of Deacon Smith, in Trout valley, was persuaded by a few of her neighbors to teach their children, which she willingly did, teaching gratuitously the few she could gather in the then almost unbroken wilderness. A few years have since rolled by, and now as good schools and as efficient teachers minister to the wants of the young as are to be found in the country.



## CHURCHES.

The township contains two churches, both German,—Catholic and Methodist. The Methodist was the first one erected, a plain frame building, at Oak Ridge. Religious services are co-equal with the advent of the settlers, services being held by pastors from adjoining towns in private houses. The Methodists have a large and thriving congregation. On December 5, 1875, a meeting of Catholics was held at the house of John Speltz, for the purpose of organizing a congregation and the erection of a church, which resulted in the building of a handsome brick edifice at Oak Ridge, at a cost of \$3,000, with a seating capacity of 400. The corner-stone was laid in May, 1876, and finished and consecrated in August of the same year. The parish is in charge of Father Lawrence. The erection and successful completion of the church is due, in a great measure, to the efforts of Peter and John Speltz, Casper Kriedemacher, A. Stever, M. Hittinger, Jacob Frisch, N. Reis, M. Sibenaler, N. Walch, N. Gidenger, P. Stever, N. Muller and others.

## CEMETERIES.

There are three burying-places in the township, two public and one Catholic. The first public one was ordered laid out May 27, 1873, near John Smith's, on the ridge. The Roman Catholics have theirs in connection with their church; the first interment in which was October 16, 1876, the wife of Peter Speltz. The other public cemetery is near the Methodist church at Oak Ridge.

## WAR RECORD.

The township then containing very few men that could be spared and but sparsely settled and with but recent comers, did all that was possible under the circumstances in defense of the country's flag. The town offered a bounty of \$125 on February 12, 1864, to volunteers, and increased it at a special meeting called for that purpose August 20, 1864, to \$250, and again at another meeting held January 23, 1865, agreed to pay \$137 additional to volunteers in service credited to the town previous to February 1, 1864, and also to men drafted and credited to the town under last call, \$300, and to those who might hereafter be drafted, \$300.

## CASUALTIES.

The township has been remarkably free from crime or casualties of any description. No murder or robbery sullies its record. Law-

suits and their accompanying bitterness are almost unknown, and justices and lawyers do not thrive off the residents of Mt. Vernon. The majority of the settlers are steady, frugal Luxemburgers, who are not prone to lawlessness of any description. The first accident that occurred was the drowning of a young man, Mr. Dunston, a connection of J. H. Williams, who fell from a barge into the river. A man who was employed by John Smith (Christopher Schilsen) was kicked by a horse while hauling a thrashing machine up the ridge, and only survived a few days. In the spring of 1873 the community suffered a severe loss in the death of Patrick Murray, one of the pioneers, and very oldest settlers, who, while ploughing, was kicked by a fractious horse so severely that death very soon ensued. No other accident worthy of note has occurred.

WHITEWATER TOWNSHIP.

The surface is generally very much broken. On the western part, however, nearly the entire length of the township skirts on Greenwood prairie, in Wabasha county. The township lies in T. 108 N. and R. 10 W. It is bounded on the north and west by Wabasha county, on the east by Mt. Vernon township, and on the south by Elba township. Whitewater lies in the extreme north-western corner of Winona county. There are two principal valleys—Whitewater valley and Beaver creek valley. Whitewater valley is six miles long, and runs directly north and south through the township. It is traversed by Whitewater river, which enters the township on Sec. 35 and leaves it on Sec. 1. This river attains an average width of forty feet and a depth of three feet. Beaver valley runs almost east and west; it is four miles long and traversed by Beaver creek. This creek rises in Sec. 19, flows east, and empties into Whitewater river at the village of Beaver on Sec. 15. Timber is abundant along the valleys, and trout plentiful in the streams. There have been two village settlements in the township, viz: Whitewater Falls, now gone to decay, and Beaver. The early history of these is in general the early history of the township.

EARLY PIONEERS.

The following came in 1854: Stephen Covey, John Cook, F. C. Putnam, Wm. J. Dooley, Wm. Woods and Albert Scrivens. Stephen Covey took up a claim on Sec. 15, John Cook on Sec. 34, F. C. Putnam S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 23, Wm. J. Dooley on Sec. 15, William

Woods on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 27, and Albert Scrivens on Sec. 15. The year 1855 was marked by the arrival of the following: A. J. McRay, J. M. Minnegar, Albert Hopson, Pliney Putnam, Lyman Young, S. A. Houck, Oliver Porter, Nathan Fisher, J. W. Hayes, Wm. Vilander, Louis Skidmore, Leonard Robinson, C. W. Buswell and Nathan Warner. A. J. McRay took up his residence on the site of Beaver; J. M. Minnegar settled on what is now N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 23 and N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 22, Albert Hopson on Sec. 22, Pliney Putnam on Secs. 10 and 11, Lyman Young on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 2, S. A. Houck on W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  Sec. 2, Oliver Porter on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 1, Nathan Fisher on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 29, J. W. Hayes on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 15, Wm. Vilander on Sec. 15, which, by the way, he purchased from J. W. Hayes for the small sum of \$2.50, Louis Skidmore on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 35, Leonard Robinson on Sec. 27, C. W. Buswell on Sec. 34, and Nathan Warner on the same section.

#### BEAVER VILLAGE.

Beaver village is situated on Sec. 15, at the junction of Beaver creek with Whitewater river. Beavers were numerous in these streams at an early day. A large dam was built by these animals in the creek near the village; from this came the names Beaver creek and Beaver village. The village was laid out in 1856, and covers an area of forty acres. The first house in this locality, and, indeed, the first in Whitewater township, was put up by Stephen Covey in 1854; the first store was built in 1856 by Wm. Dooley; it was a log structure, 14×20 feet, and devoted to general merchandise. Among the early residents were John Knowles, H. B. Knowles, Dr. Sheldon Brooks and J. W. Hayes.

The first blacksmith shop was built by Carl Pope in 1856; first death was that of Stephen Covey, who died in 1857, and was buried on his farm, S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 15; first birth was that of Cora Knowles, born February 16, 1856; first marriage was that of Laura Covey to John Cheney in 1856. A private school was kept in the house of Carl Pope in 1857; it was taught by Sarah Pope, and had an attendance of perhaps twenty-five pupils. A sawmill was built on Beaver creek, on Sec. 16, in 1856, by Carleton and Gardner Malindy; it was a very crude affair at first: a hollow log was pressed into service and used as a flume; in 1857 it was converted into a gristmill with one run of burrs; F. E. Becker is the present owner. The mill has been much improved; it is now two stories in height, is 40×100

feet in dimensions, has two run of burrs, patent rolling machinery and a capacity of fifty barrels per day ; the water-power is excellent at this point. An hotel was built in Beaver in 1865 by David Jacobis ; it was a structure half frame and half log. Beaver contains a population of 125 persons. Two stores, kept by G. G. Knowles and Samuel Detamore respectively ; two blacksmith shops, owned by R. Young and S. Card ; one wagon shop run by Peter Neiheisel, and a feedmill owned by Adam Winters. This mill grinds corn, oats, etc., into feed for stock. In the fall it is converted into a sorghum-mill ; great quantities of amber cane are consumed and converted into sorghum molasses. Sherman Card keeps the one hotel in Beaver ; it does a small business, as travel has fallen off almost entirely. One school in Beaver, district 45, has an attendance of forty pupils.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

This was built in 1868 through the exertions of Elder Clipper ; the church is frame, 40×60 feet, with a spire 60 feet tall ; the congregation was organized in 1858 ; they at that time held their meetings in the schoolhouse ; the prominent members were Pliney Putnam, Elder P. Richardson and George Stoning ; the first minister was Elder Wm. Sweet, now residing in Norton township ; Rev. J. Tisdale is the pastor at present writing ; they have a Sabbath school with twenty-five pupils and three teachers, and a small library of forty volumes.

#### WHITEWATER FALLS

Is situated on Whitewater river, on Secs. 26 and 27. It is so called from rapids in the river at this point ; it was laid out in 1856, but gradually fell into decay ; it has a population now of perhaps thirty people. There are six district schools in Whitewater township and two postoffices—one at Beaver, with Samuel Detamore as postmaster, and another at Whitewater Falls, with A. C. Randall as postmaster.

#### ELBA TOWNSHIP.

Elba is situated in T. 107 N., R. 10 W. Its boundaries are, on the north Whitewater township, on the east Norton, on the south St. Charles, and on the west Olmsted county. The surface is very much broken, and is covered by three deep valleys, which in turn are traversed by three prominent streams. There are three branches of the Whitewater river, the north branch, the east branch and the



middle branch. These unite at the village of Elba, on Sec. 10, and form one principal stream, which flows north and leaves the township on Sec. 2. Whitewater river is formed by numerous springs arising from the bluffs, and furnishes excellent water-power for a number of mills along its course. The streams abound in speckled trout, and the country is much visited all through the summer months by fishing parties in quest of sport. The bluffs along the valley are from 350 to 400 feet in height, and form some of the most beautiful scenes in that section of the country.

Good farms are found in the valleys, and excellent "wheat tables" on the high land.

Floods, caused by heavy rains in summer, are frequent on the Whitewater and its branches, causing much annoyance by the washing away of dams and the injury of mills.

The timber found in the township is principally oak and elm, which is plentiful in the valleys.

Immigration into the township began as early as 1854. Robert Crooks was probably the first among the early pioneers. He came to that locality in the spring of 1854, and took up a claim on what is now part of Sec. 28. He was followed the same year by F. McCarty and a man named Southwick. F. McCarty settled on what is now Sec. 22, while Southwick made a claim on Sec. 3. The following came in 1855: A. E. Todd, D. J. Todd, D. R. Holbrook, L. U. Todd, W. Telugan, Peter Kiefer, Andrew Burger, Wm. Himmelberg, A. D. Nichols, Alva Philbrick, H. D. Bailey and Jerry Philbrick. A. E. Todd took up land on Secs. 6 and 7, D. J. Todd on Secs. 8 and 9, D. R. Holbrook on Sec. 9, L. U. Todd on Sec. 8, W. Telugan on Sec. 11, Peter Kiefer on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 12, Andrew Burger on Secs. 11 and 12, Wm. Himmelberg on Sec. 11, A. D. Nichols on Sec. 10, Alva Philbrick, H. D. Bailey and Jerry Philbrick, all on Sec. 10.

First death in the township was that of Mrs. Casper Kreidermacher, who died of cholera in 1856, and was buried on Sec. 3.

The first school was held in a little log schoolhouse, built in 1855 by Alva Philbrick, on what is now Sec. 10. The first saw-mill was built on the north branch of the Whitewater, on Sec. 8, by A. E. Todd, in the summer of 1856. It was washed out by a flood some time after, and was rebuilt on Sec. 7. The mill is now standing and does principally a custom business for the farmers in the neighborhood.

"Fairwater Flouring Mill" was built on Sec. 7, on the north branch of the Whitewater, some time in 1866, by W. Parr and W. R. Ellis. It was two stories in height and had a dimension of 35×40 feet. E. C. Ellis is the present owner. The mill has two run of burrs and a capacity of thirty barrels per day. The first laid out road in the township was the road running from Winona west to the county line. This road ran directly through the center of Elba township, and was laid out in 1857.

The postoffice in the village was the first and only one in the township. It was established in 1857, with H. D. Bailey as postmaster.

There are two churches, the German Catholic at Elba village, and the United Brethren on Sec. 21. The latter was built in 1876. It is 30×40 feet, with a spire forty feet tall. They have a congregation of perhaps seventy-five members, composed mostly of Germans. The first minister was Rev. Reissick, the present one is Rev. J. Gutensohn. Attached to the church is a cemetery and two acres of land.

There are five district schools in Elba in Secs. 33, 27, 10, 3 and 8.

The first meeting took place May 11, 1858, for the general organization. J. H. Dearborn was elected town clerk; J. W. Ireland, J. Philbrick, N. V. Crow, supervisors; John Bole, assessor; E. B. Barnes, collector; Thomas Barnes, G. E. Fisher, justices of the peace; David Duryee, overseer of poor; Hugh Barclay, Aaron Baker, constables. The following are the town clerks in succession: J. H. Dearborn, David Cook, A. D. Nichols, M. R. Lair, A. D. Nichols, R. Bullen, H. F. Denio, John Bullen, John Udell, Gregory Ritt, H. F. Denio, the clerk for 1882-3.

#### ELBA VILLAGE.

Elba village is situated on Secs. 9 and 10, at the junction of the three branches of the Whitewater. Although it has never been recorded as a village plat, there has been a settlement there since 1856. The first house was put up by C. Southwick. Among the early residents were D. R. Holbrook, Israel Messenger, Manoa Turner, D. J. W. Ireland, David Duryee, John Penson and A. D. Nichols. The first postoffice was established in 1857, with H. D. Bailey as postmaster. D. S. Loy kept the first store in 1862; John Bollen soon started another store. The first blacksmith shop was kept by Mr. Medcalf. The first school was a log house, built 1858.

Dr. J. W. Ireland practiced in the village and the surrounding country from 1860 to 1864. The flouring-mill in Elba was built in 1860, by John Rodgers. The water-power is furnished by the north and middle branches of Whitewater. The mill is 25×30 feet. In the first place they had two run of burrs and a much larger capacity than now. It passed through a number of hands and underwent considerable improvement. Another run of burrs have been added, besides a turban water-wheel, a stone wall and a new flume. The present owners are J. Hoffman and T. C. Udell. The capacity is seventy-five barrels per day. Elba contains, at present writing, two stores, two hotels, a blacksmith shop and a carpenter shop. The present school was built in 1866. It is a district school with an average attendance of fifty pupils. The German Catholic church was built in 1877, through the instrumentality of Ferdinand Kramer, Peter Geren and Nicholas Marnoch. It is a frame building, 40×60 feet, with a belfry fifteen feet high. The first minister was Father Plut, of Winona, who visited the congregation through a period of two or three years. The congregation consists of 200 members. Attached to the church is a cemetery and thirty-five acres of land.

The population of the village is now 100. It has a very healthy climate, and it is a noticeable fact that for thirty years it has never had a case of scarlet-fever or diphtheria.

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## CHAPTER LIII.

### HART, FREMONT AND SARATOGA TOWNSHIPS.

#### HART TOWNSHIP.

THIS township lies in T. 105 N., of R. 8 West. It comprises thirty-six complete sections. Its boundaries are, on the north Warren township, on the east Wiscoy, on the south Fillmore county, and on the west Fremont township. The surface is rough and broken — what is known as “grub land.” The soil, nevertheless, is very productive. The high bluffs divide the country into four valleys, Rush Creek, Dry, Pine Creek and Knapp valleys. All excepting Pine Creek valley run north and south; the latter runs east and west. Dry valley is so called from a small stream which disappears

in a subterranean channel only to reappear again in unexpected places. Rush Creek valley is the largest of the four, and is named after Rush creek; Knapp's valley, so called from J. R. Knapp, an old resident in that vicinity; Pine Creek valley named after Pine creek. This stream in an early day was heavily timbered with black walnut, maple, oak, basswood and scattering pine. The pine has now disappeared. Rush creek enters the township on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 6, flows southeast through Secs. 7, 13, 19, 29 and 33, leaving the township on Sec. 33; Pine creek enters township on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 30, flows southeast through Secs. 31 and 32, and joins Rush creek on Sec. 33. Hart was organized May 11, 1858, under the name of Benton township; a year after it was given its present name. The first town clerk was John Pierce, appointed at the first meeting in 1858. The first board were: J. W. Young, John Knapp, justices of the peace; Liborius Kauphusman, Patrick Orourke, constables; George Bisset, assessor; Jesse Conner, collector; M. T. Doherty, Thomas Baily, F. M. Andrews, supervisors. The town clerks in succession: John Pierce, M. T. Doherty, J. M. Hitchcock, John King, Berend Bollmann, John King, Berend Bollmann (clerk for 1882-3). Board for 1882-3: Daniel McKay, M. Degnan, George Schaupp, supervisors; B. Bollmann, D. H. Otis, justices of the peace; John Millman, assessor; Herman Trester, constable.

## OLD SETTLERS.

Oliver Parmelee came to this section in 1854 and took up part of Sec. 2. Laborius Kauphusman came in 1855, surveyed land, and made a claim on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 16. He then left, and returned soon afterward with his family; he is now dead, but the farm is in the hands of his children. Thomas Heberer and M. T. Doherty came the same year (1855); Thomas Heberer settled on Sec. 2, while M. T. Doherty entered the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 12. The following made their appearance in 1856: Henry Ronnenberg, Rev. A. Brand, John C. Brand, John Parmelee, Smith Thorington, Job Thorington and John Brammer. Henry Ronnenberg settled on Sec. 12; Rev. A. Brand came with a large herd of cattle and took up land on Sec. 24; John C. Brand entered part of Sec. 23; John Parmelee, Smith Thorington and Job Thorington settled on Sec. 10, while John Brammer made a claim of N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 1. A large hotel (or tavern as it was called), named the "Benton House," was kept by O. E. Fockens in 1857 on Sec. 2. At this time there was an immense



amount of travel through this section of the country, and the hotel did a thriving business. This soon fell off, however, at the entrance of railways, and the place was deserted in 1865. There is but one mill in Hart; it is a flouring-mill built on Rush creek in 1860 (Sec. 29) by G. M. Hitchcock. It is a frame structure of medium size, and has a "custom business" only. There is but one postoffice in the township, namely, Hart postoffice. It was established in 1872, with John Kiekbusch as postmaster. The present postmaster is Charles Wolfram, who also keeps a small country store. (This is on Sec. 26.)

There are five schools in Hart: District 11 in Sec. 8, dist. 37 in Sec. 12, dist. 50 in Sec. 10, dist. 48 in Sec. 25, dist. 49 in Sec. 20.

The population, which is mostly composed of emigrants from lower Germany, has decreased since 1870. This is said to be caused by emigration west, and the buying up of land by a few individuals. One farm, owned by the heirs of Laborius Kauphusman, on Sec. 16, comprises an area of 1,000 acres. Since the failure of wheat of late, the population have turned their attention to stock raising. The average crop for 1882 is said to be, wheat, 12 bushels per acre; corn, 35 bushels per acre; barley, 25 bushels per acre; oats, 40 bushels per acre.

There are two churches in Hart, Lutheran on Sec. 23, and Roman Catholic on Sec. 9.

*Lutheran.*—The present church building was erected in 1861, although meetings were held long before. It is a frame building, 48×30 feet, with a spire fifty feet high. There is a comfortable parish house connected, and also a parochial school. E. M. Buerger, one of the founders of the Missouri Synod at St. Louis, was pastor of this church from 1868 to 1880. The first minister was John Reiz; the present one, Frances Johl. The congregation, which is quite large, is composed of Germans. The school has an average attendance of fifty pupils. They teach both German and English. A cemetery of one acre is connected with the church.

#### FREMONT TOWNSHIP.

Fremont township lies in T. 105 N., R. 9 W. Its boundaries are, on the north Utica, on the east Hart, on the west Saratoga, and on the south Fillmore county. The surface of Fremont township is diversified. In the eastern and southern portions the land

is much broken, while in the central and western parts it is almost level. Rush creek flows through the northeastern corner, cutting Secs. 1, 2 and 12, while Pine creek flows through the southeastern portion, cutting Secs. 25 and 35.

The town was organized May 11, 1858, and E. B. Wells appointed town clerk. The first house built in Fremont township was erected by Isaac Arnold, in the fall of 1854, on what is now Sec. 2. It was a small log-house, perhaps 14×16 feet in dimensions. In 1856 L. C. Rice built a small store on what is now Sec. 2. This was the first store known to have been kept in Fremont. In the same year (1856) "Captain" Hinkley started a blacksmith shop on Sec. 22. The first postoffice was established in 1857, on Sec. 2, at a village known as Neoca (long since abandoned), with L. C. Rice as postmaster.

In 1856 a sawmill was built by John Henry and John Du Bois, on Sec. 26, on Pine creek. Although a very crude affair, it was capable of sawing 1,000 feet of lumber per day. The water-power was not very good at this point. In 1870 this was converted into a gristmill. Since then it has been very much improved. It is now 36×20 feet, is two stories in height, has two run of burrs, and a capacity of grinding fifteen bushels of wheat per hour.

Edward Porter was the first person that died in the township. He died in the winter of 1856, and was buried on what is now Sec. 5. The first birth was that of Charles Gates, born some time in 1856, on Sec. 14. The first marriage was that of Ann R. Arnold to John Du Bois, in the year 1856.

In 1857 the first schoolhouse was built. It stood on Sec. 8, and was 24×16 feet. Malinda Joy was the first teacher. There were on an average forty pupils in attendance. Fremont has been honored by the presence of one doctor. Dr. W. S. Morrison came in 1867, and has been practicing in the vicinity ever since. The first hotel was kept by Isaac Arnold on Sec. 2 as early as 1855. The first road was built under the supervision of Phineas Gates in 1856. It was known as the Gates road, and led from the Du Bois mill on Sec. 26 to the territorial road in the center of the township. There are two churches in Fremont,—Scotch Presbyterian on Sec. 20 and the Methodist Episcopal church on Sec. 10. The Presbyterian church was built in 1865. It is 38×26 feet, with a spire seventy-one feet from the ground. The first minister was Rev. Craven, from St. Charles. The congregation, which is composed entirely of

Scotch, number about fifty members. A cemetery, the only one in the township, is connected with the church. Rev. S. D. Westfall, the present minister, came in 1870. The Methodist Episcopal church stands on Sec. 10, and was built in 1874. It is 26×40 feet, with a belfry fifteen feet. The congregation is very small at present, although it was once quite a flourishing body. The first meetings were held in the schoolhouse as early as 1857. The first minister was Rev. Wm. Poling. There are two stores in Fremont, one on Sec. 10, kept by Kelley & Bro., at a place known as the "Corners," or Fremont postoffice, and another on Sec. 29, kept by H. Sennis. The three postoffices are: "Fremont," on Sec. 10, J. A. Kelley, postmaster, established in 1876; Argo postoffice, on Sec. 16, with John Henry as postmaster, established in 1866, and Clyde postoffice on Sec. 19, with Martin Schultz as postmaster, and established in 1873. There are six district schools, namely, District 104 on Sec. 29, dist. 67 on Sec. 26, dist. 68 on Sec. 20, dist. 66 on Sec. 14, dist. 96 on Sec. 10, dist. 64 on Sec. 3. The poll list at the election of 1882 numbered 210.

#### OLD SETTLERS.

The following came in 1854: Isaac Arnold, Phineas Gates and Phineas Gates, Jr. Isaac Arnold made a claim on what is now Sec. 2, while Phineas Gates, Sr., and Phineas Gates, Jr., settled on what is now Sec. 14. In 1855 the following named came: Noah Gates, Edward Porter, Samuel Arnold, E. Kelley, Mathew Ferguson, John Ferguson, John Jarman, Orsmus Joy, Lemuel Bartholomew, Porter Richards, John Henry, Duncan Ferguson, Donald Ferguson, John DuBois, Thomas Robertson, Reason Evarett, John Dobbs and Geo. Johnson. Noah Gates settled on Sec. 2, Edward Porter on Secs. 6 and 7, Samuel Arnold on Sec. 9, E. Kelley on Sec. 9, Mathew Ferguson on Sec. 15, John Ferguson on the same section. John Jarman on Sec. 17, Orsmus Joy on Sec. 4, Lemuel Bartholomew on Sec. 9, Porter Richards on Sec. 4, John Henry on Sec. 21, Duncan and Donald Ferguson on Sec. 17, John Du Bois on Sec. 26, Thomas Robertson on Sec. 20, Reason Evarett on Sec. 28, John Dobbs on Sec. 5 and Geo. Johnson on Sec. 8.

A party of young men came to this locality in the spring of 1855 and camped on what is now Sec. 4. Among these were "Jack" Earle, W. H. Joy and John Draper. The population is composed mostly of Scotch at present, while most of the early pioneers have disappeared.

## SARATOGA TOWNSHIP.

This township lies in the extreme southwestern corner of Winona county, having Olmstead county on the west and Fillmore county on the south. Though the face of the country is somewhat broken along its western front, it contains some of as fine farming land as is to be found in any state of the Union. Settlements were made almost simultaneously in the western portion of the township and along the northern ridge, adjoining the township of St. Charles. These settlements date back a period of nearly thirty years, and some of the claims then taken are still being farmed by the original pre-emptors. The soil upon the prairie is a deep vegetable loam, with a clay subsoil; but in the oak openings it is of a lighter character, a sandy loam intermixed with gravel. This latter is a quicker, warmer soil, and specially adapted to the growth of corn, as this cereal ripens quicker on the gravelly soil, a very material consideration in this latitude. All the valuable farming lands of the township may be included under one or the other of these classes of soil. The western portion of the township is well watered and quite a valuable water privilege exists at Troy. The volume of water, though not large, having its sources in unfailing springs, affords with its head of twenty feet sufficient power to maintain a very considerable milling industry. The staple of the farms in past years has been wheat, to which within the past decade the growth of barley has been added in quantities sufficient to dispute the palm. These grains, with clover and timothy seed (which are grown in large quantities), oats and corn, have been and still are the main dependence of the farmer throughout this whole region, little if any stock more than sufficient for farm purposes being raised. But as the wheat yield has decreased from time to time, more and more attention has been paid to the breeding of horses, cattle and swine for market, and now there are some valuable herds of these animals on well conducted stock farms within the area of the township. Dairying has also begun to challenge the attention of the farmers of this and adjoining townships, and some farms keep quite a number of milch cows, the number and quality of them increasing from year to year. Creameries are being established to manufacture the cream product of these dairy herds, and the industry promises soon to assume an important rank among the farm products of the western portions of the county.

Considerable settlements had been made in Saratoga township



as early as the spring of 1855, a few pre-emptions and actual occupancy of the land dating as far back as the fall of 1853. The settlements during 1855 were numerous, and the following season, 1856, it was quite difficult if not impossible to find any valuable lands unclaimed. The formal organization of the township was effected under the new state government, May 11, 1858, at Troy, a small village and postoffice in the southwestern part of the township, at which time the usual officers were elected. Luke Blair and Thomas P. Dixon were appointed judges of election, and J. P. Moulton and E. W. Day, clerks. The whole number of ballots cast was 146. Luke Blair, James Walker and Robert Nesbit were elected supervisors; J. C. Dixon, town clerk; E. S. Harvey, assessor; D. Durham, collector of taxes; Thos. P. Dixon and Oscar Kately, justices of the peace; L. M. Phelps and Alvin Durham, constables; Geo. W. Crain, overseer of the poor, and L. B. Smith, overseer of roads. The township was named Saratoga, on account of the beautiful natural springs in its western section, the vote standing eighty-six in favor of Saratoga and sixty in favor of Afton. The office of town clerk has been successively filled as follows: A. D. Trowbridge, elected as the successor of J. C. Dixon, in 1859, held the office three years; E. W. Day, elected in 1862, served one year; P. F. Thurbur, one year; Wm. H. Fry, one year. In 1865 E. W. Day was again elected and served until 1878, a period of thirteen years, when the present incumbent, E. B. Gery, was elected, and has held the office continuously until date, March 1, 1883. The town officers elected or holding over for 1882, are: J. D. Ball (chairman), Alexander Campbell and O. B. Sutherland, supervisors; N. M. Cross, treasurer; W. B. Hesselgrave, assessor; E. B. Gery, town clerk; G. French and Samuel Cary, justices of the peace; Ira Canfield and James Wise, constables. A comfortable and commodious town hall was erected in 1877. It is situated in the center of the township and cost \$800.

The military record of the township was never kept. The names recorded of the few men enlisted toward the close of the war, when the prospects of a draft were imminent, afford no proper data from which to calculate the number of men who volunteered from this township during 1861-65 inclusive. All that can be gathered on this point will be presented in the military records of the county as a whole. No township register of births, deaths, marriages was kept, by which to determine positively the actual date of the earlier

of such events, yet the following statement concerning early township matters may be taken as substantially correct. The first claim to United States lands under the pre-emption act made in this township was by one Hawes, some time in the season of 1853, but the date of his claim cannot be accurately given. The second, third and fourth claims were made by Luke Blair, on September 12, 1853, principally in Sec. 2, and were for himself and his two sons, Chas. L. and John L. Isaac Arnold and Fullerton also made claims that same fall, but date of claims is not ascertained.

The first white child born in the township was George N. Blair, son of Geo. W. and M. S. Blair (née Deuell), born July 20, 1855. Following him was a son of Gilman French, born in the year 1855, then Geo. D. French, son of John S. and Kate French, born February 6, 1856; John M. Blair, son of John T. Blair, born in 1856; Otto Phelps, born some time in the fall of 1856.

The first death and burial in the township was that of a non-resident, Rev. Angel Wright, who, following some horse thieves into this section from Iowa, was taken sick and died in Saratoga village, some time in the summer of 1855. The first death of an actual resident was that of Justen Braddock, early in August, 1856, and immediately following was that of Mrs. Dr. Gates, wife of G. L. Gates, M.D., now of Winona city, who died August 25, 1856. Harriet Warren died April 29, 1857; an infant son of George Blair's, July 1, that season; a child of Henry Olney's about the same time, and Kate Flannigan in the following September. These last four were buried in what is known as Worth cemetery, the others in Saratoga cemetery, but all within the bounds of the township.

On the night before Christmas, 1856, a brother of Mrs. William Reeves, traveling from High Forest, Olmstead county, passed through Saratoga village, warmed himself at the hotel of Moulton & Dixon, and notwithstanding the warning of Mr. Dixon, concluded to try and reach his sister's house, five miles distant, despite the severe storm and cold. This man was found frozen to death on Sec. 9, by Mr. Charles Gerrish, on Christmas morning, eight o'clock, one-half a mile from his house, one and one-fourth miles from Mr. Reeves'. Mr. Gerrish took charge of the body without waiting for a coroner, and finding from the deceased papers that he had come from Chatfield, took him to Saratoga for identification. And this act of Mr. Gerrish's in taking charge of the body without waiting for coroner, was made the occasion of an electioneering argument

against his election to the territorial convention of 1857, called to frame a state constitution.

The first marriage actually celebrated within the township was that of Lester Becker and Shuah Littlefield, December 25, 1855; but the marriage of William Smith and Jane Fullerton, residents of the township, was performed at Chatfield at least ten months earlier, about the middle of February, 1855. Following these was the marriage of Allen Whipple and Lois Harding, November 8, 1856, and that of Samuel Burns and Jane Flemming, at probably an earlier date than the fall of 1856, but nothing positive can be ascertained in relation thereto.

The first frame farm buildings in Saratoga township were erected on the claim of Luke Blair, N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 2. These were a frame barn, 16×24 feet, with 14 feet posts, and a frame dwelling (now standing as the kitchen part of the farm-house), 16×24, with 8 feet posts. These buildings were erected in the spring of 1855. The frame dwelling of H. G. Cox, still standing in excellent repair, built of oak plank, was erected in 1857. The first sawmill was built in the winter of 1856-57 (by H. G. Cox and Vincent Hix) for George Hayes and Lewis Smith. It was situated about one and one-half miles southeast from the village of Troy, on Trout run. The first gristmill was built in 1857, by Joseph and Samuel Musser, who brought their millwrights with them from Pennsylvania. This mill is still standing at Troy, on the water privilege there, a most excellent one with about twenty feet head. The first crop of grain grown in the township, as nearly as now known, was on the Wheeler boy's claim, the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 5, now owned by Lyman Cox.

As early as 1854-5, Harvey & Broughton, and the following year Broughton & Andrews, kept small stocks of goods, groceries and supplies principally along the ridge on the north line of the township. In the fall of 1856, H. M. Clark, now of Chatfield, Olmstead county, brought in a small stock of groceries and crockeryware, and started business in Saratoga village. This stock was sold the following spring to Dixon & Moulton and merged into the general store established by them in the spring of 1857.

Rev. Gardner K. Clark was the first minister to settle in the township. He came in the fall of 1866 (with his son H. M.) and the first church service (Congregational) was held in Gate's log-house, still standing, a monument of early pioneer times. The following season, 1857, the church was built and in the fall of that year was occu-

ped. This church, the only one ever built in the township, is still standing and doing duty as a place of religious worship.

The first hotel in the township was built and kept by Thomas P. Dixon, still a resident of the city, and J. P. Moulton, who at a later date represented Olmsted county in the state legislature, and for six years was receiver of the land office at Wellington, Minnesota. The first postoffice was established at Saratoga in the fall of 1856. Thomas P. Dixon was commissioned postmaster, and, with the exception of two years during the latter part of Buchanan's administration, held the office until he resigned in April, 1882, the date of his removal from Saratoga to St. Charles. His removal from the office in 1858 and the appointment of John O'Leary as his successor, the latter a man who could neither read nor write, was effected on political grounds and mainly through the influence of the Chatfield land office.

The first physician who located in the township was John C. Dixon, who taught school in the little settlement of Saratoga village during the winter of 1856-7, commencing practice as a physician in the spring of the latter year. Dr. Dixon is not now a resident of the county, having removed some years since to Candor, Tioga county, New York.

The first schoolhouse in the township was built by voluntary subscription in the summer of 1856, on the town plat of Saratoga, near the church, and was first occupied that fall, when Dr. Dixon was employed as teacher. The first school taught in the township was opened in Charles Gerrish's house, on Sec. 9. This was a double log-house, and in one of these rooms, the south one, the school was opened in the summer of 1856 for a term of three months. The teacher's name was Helen Hewitt, and there were twenty-seven pupils on her school register.

*Evergreen Lodge, No. 46, A. F. and A. M.*—Located at Troy, a small post village in the southeast corner of Saratoga township, was chartered December 23, 1864, upon petition of S. Y. Hyde, A. N. Rice, S. S. Armstrong, Vincent Hicks, J. C. Hopkins, E. J. Thompson, C. M. Lovell and D. S. Hackett. Mr. S. Y. Hyde, now of La Crosse, was the first worshipful master, and his successors have been Freeman Morse, R. B. Kellum, S. L. Draper, M. H. Fuller and H. H. Straw. The first secretary was A. N. Price, succeeded by Neil Currie, E. B. Gerry, W. W. Heyden, L. A. Gates, H. H. Heyden, W. E. Walker and W. B. Hesselgrave. The



present officers of the lodge are: S. L. Draper, W.M.; M. H. Fuller, S.W.; R. McCready, J.W.; E. B. Gerry, Treas.; W. B. Hesselgrave, Sec.; H. H. Straw, S.D.; R. Sutherland, J.D.; M. Campbell, Chap.; W. E. Walker, Tiler.

The total number of members connected with the lodge since organization has been ninety. Of this number six have died, thirty-four appear on the list of present members, and the rest have demitted. Last year the lodge completed a new hall at a cost of \$1,200, and are now in comfortable quarters.

# HISTORY OF OLMSTED COUNTY.

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## INTRODUCTION.

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BUT little more than a quarter of a century has passed since the earliest and most remote facts and incidents recorded in the following pages transpired. Many now living among us were active participants in those incidents and experiences, while many of those who were active in making the earlier history of Olmsted county, have removed to other lands to make for themselves new homes, and yet others have been called hence to the great unknown.

However comparatively brief the time, and however limited the field embraced in this work, a little calm and intelligent reflection will bring to mind something of the importance, the excellence and the grandeur of the results and achievements obtained. A mere garden-spot in area, as compared with the vast Northwest, not a generation past the undisputed home of the Indian and the scarcely less savage wild animal, has, through industry, toil, privation and perseverance, stimulated by a love of home and laudable accumulation, and guided by intelligence and reason, been reclaimed from the severe and rugged features of nature and made to "bud and blossom as the rose." Broad prairies and charming woodlands, at the magic touch of the husbandman's labor and skill, have been converted into fertile and fruitful fields, yielding their abundance for man and beast. Thousands of comfortable and pleasant homes, many of them deeply attractive for their beauty and splendor, have been built—dear homes, around which the fondest and most holy associations love to linger, and in which are nurtured the highest and best impulses of human life and action. In this county, too, the cause of education has received early, continuous and generous attention, as the neat, comfortable and, in many instances, elegant and capacious schoolhouses within her boundaries clearly demonstrate. Nor has the cause of christianity been forgotten or ignored. At the very

earliest settlement of the county, the hardy and energetic pioneers, on each returning Sabbath, felt it a duty as well as a precious privilege, to assemble in the humble cabin or primitive schoolhouse for religious worship. From these days of "small things" have sprung the large and influential religious organizations to be found in so many localities in the county, and who to-day congregate to worship in fine and capacious church edifices.

To build some humble monument in memory of the dawn of civilization in Olmsted county ; to mark upon the tablet of a loving and an enduring memory the names of some of the brave and noble pioneers who have wrought out so great and magnificent results, is the grateful and pleasing task of him who sketches the subsequent pages.

In preparing the history of Olmsted county proper, the writer has been assisted materially by having access to "Mitchell's History of Olmsted County, 1866." We are also under lasting obligations to Messrs. James Bucklin, W. D. Hurlbut, M. J. Daniels, Judge O. P. Stearns, A. Harkins, Thomas Hunter, William Brown, William Williams, James Button, Hon. C. M. Start, George Healy, and several others of our fellow-citizens, for valuable information connected with our task. That our work is perfect, we do not claim, but that it is as full and reliable as the time allotted and facilities available for its preparation would permit, will, we believe, be conceded by all those tolerably conversant with all the facts and circumstances connected with the undertaking.

S. W. E.

## CHAPTER I.

### DESCRIPTION AND EARLY SETTLEMENT.

THE county of Olmsted, in the State of Minnesota, is situated approximately between  $43^{\circ} 49'$  and  $44^{\circ} 33'$  of north latitude, and between  $92^{\circ} 10'$  and  $92^{\circ} 40'$  west longitude. It is bounded on the north by Goodhue and Wabasha counties, on the east by Wabasha and Winona counties, on the south by Fillmore and Mower counties and west by Dodge county. The extreme length of the county is thirty miles east and west; the greatest width from north to south is twenty-five miles. The boundary line of the county on the north and the south are somewhat irregular. T. 108, R. 11 and 12, have been attached to Wabasha county, and the direct line between Olmsted and Mower is broken by attaching a strip of land one mile wide by twelve miles in length to the towns of High Forest and Rock Dell, in Olmsted county. The county embraces about 650 square miles. The general surface is gently undulating, or rolling and swelling, like the huge billows of old ocean, and before the transforming hand of industry and civilization had changed the aspect and conditions, the broad, rich prairies, the pleasant valleys and romantic hills were covered with rich herbage and with the various hued flowers that are scattered in such rich profusion over the western wilds, intermingled with blossoming and fruit-bearing shrubs. It is doubtful if the eye of man ever rested on a spot of earth, which for fertility of soil, beauty of landscape and healthfulness of climate, excels the domain of which we write.

The larger portion of the county is prairie. The soil is a dark loam, from one and one-half feet to two and one-half feet in depth, and adapted to the production of all kinds of grain and vegetables commonly raised in this climate. Bordering the streams there are long stretches of natural meadow land, affording large quantities of hay of an excellent quality. The soil in the valleys partakes more of the sandy composition, but in seasons of sufficient rain, it is exceedingly productive,—crops growing more rapidly and maturing from one to two weeks earlier than on the higher prairie land. In the northwest corner of the county there is, or rather was, a belt of



heavy timber, composed of oak, bass, hickory and some sugar-maple. In various other portions of the county, noticeably that bordering on Root river, in the southern part, there are considerable bodies of timber, of similar kinds to those above mentioned. Much of this timber has been used for fuel, fencing and building, and considerable tracts of what was once heavily timbered land have been "cleared off" and converted into productive grain fields, pasture and meadow.

But of everything in the line of nature's methods and arrangements in the configuration of Olmsted county, for sublimity, picturesqueness and grandeur, the grand and towering old "bluffs" stand pre-eminent. Beautiful and romantic, with their rounded and symmetrical caps, they add unspeakable charm and attractiveness to the landscape, relieving it of that unpleasant sameness and monotony incident to an unbroken level expanse. These bluffs or hills are, for the most part, situated along the borders of water-courses and comprise but a very small portion of the surface of the county. In most instances the side of the bluff opposite the valley or stream recedes gently back into a stretch of beautiful level prairie, woodland or grove. The bluffs, besides the charm and variety which they afford, are the depositories of inexhaustible quantities of limestone of excellent quality and vastly valuable for walls and building purposes.

A word of explanation here is deemed appropriate. When, in the succeeding pages, the name of a town, as Cascade, Elmira, etc., is mentioned in connection with the early settlement of the county, or other events transpiring before the organization of the county into townships, or to its physical construction, for convenience and to avoid circumlocution, the name of the town will be used the same as though it had already been organized.

#### PRINCIPAL STREAMS.

The principal streams running through Olmsted county are two branches of the Zumbro river, the Root and Whitewater rivers, Bear, Silver and Cascade creeks. One branch of the Zumbro rises in Dodge county, and running through the towns of Kalmar, New Haven and Oronoco, into Wabasha county, thence through that county, emptying into the Mississippi river about five miles below the city of Wabasha. The other branch of the Zumbro also rises in Dodge county, running thence into Olmsted county, and through the towns of Salem, Rochester township and city, Haverhill, Cascade

and Oronoco, uniting in the town of Oronoco with the middle branch. These two streams afford considerable water-power, the east branch being improved to a considerable extent at the city of Rochester. The other branch, which runs through the western towns, has afforded the motive power to three sawmills in the town of New Haven, and a flouring-mill and other machinery at the village of Oronoco. The Zumbro river is said to have received its name from the Jesuit priests who visited Minnesota at an early period as missionaries among the Indians. It was named by them in French, *Les Ambras*, signifying the embarrass, or river of obstructions, which name it was called by the Indians, and by the white men who first settled here the name was anglicized to Zumbro.

Root river rises in Dodge county and runs in an easterly direction through the southern tier of towns, Rock Dell, High Forest, Pleasant Grove, Orion and Elmira, through the counties of Fillmore and Houston, and empties into the Mississippi river below La Crescent. This river supplies the power for driving a flouring-mill at the village of High Forest, another at Stewartville, also a flouring-mill in the town of Pleasant Grove and a sawmill in the town of Elmira, near the village of Chatfield.

The principal branch of the Whitewater river rises in the town of Eyota, and runs through the towns of Dover and Quincy, then enters Wabasha county and running eastward empties into the Mississippi near Minneiska. Another branch of this stream rises in the town of Dover, and running thence through the town of Quincy, where it serves to drive the machinery of a large flouring-mill; thence it runs into Winona county and unites with the main branch. Still another branch of this river rises in the town of Viola, and running through the towns of Elgin and Plainview, in Wabasha county, enters Olmsted county again in the town of Quincy, affording fine waterpower at three different points in the town.

Cascade creek rises in the town of Cascade, and runs through the town in a northeasterly direction, meandering through valleys and meadow-lands, empties into the Zumbro near the northern limit of the city of Rochester. A flouring-mill is situated on this creek near its mouth, in the city of Rochester.

Bear creek is formed by springs among the highlands of the town of Eyota, which form the water-ledge or dividing ridge that separates the waters of the Whitewater and Root rivers, and is said to be the highest land in Olmsted county. The creek flows through

the towns of Eyota, Marion and Rochester, affording an excellent waterpower after it reaches within the city limits. The stream empties into the Zumbro river near the center of the city of Rochester.

Silver creek rises in the town of Haverhill, and winding its way in a westerly direction, loses itself in the Zumbro river, within the northern part of the city of Rochester.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENTS.

Without doubt at some period or periods within the past century or two, the territory now comprising the county of Olmsted may have been visited by white men in the character of Jesuit priests in the interests of religion, or by adventurers and explorers in the pursuit of conquest or political schemes, but of this we have no certain knowledge. If these supposed representatives of semi-civilization and enlightenment ever trod the soil of what is now Olmsted county, there are, so far as we know, no signs or records of any such event beyond the dim and vague conjectures which have come down to us through the speculative and uncertain annals of the past one or two hundred years. It is, however, reasonable to suppose that this portion of Minnesota may have been visited by home-seekers, land-lookers or other explorers with a view to location within the past fifty years, and several years before any attempt was made to form settlements within the limits of what is now Olmsted county. The county is strictly inland, no navigable rivers running through it or bordering it on either side—conditions which will account for the more early settlements in Minnesota on the Mississippi river and its tributaries, the St. Croix and Minnesota.

The first\* attempt at the settlement of Olmsted county was made in the spring of 1853, by Hon. Hiram Thompson, subsequently judge of probate, now deceased. At the time mentioned, Mr. Thompson came into the town of Dover, and made his claim by erecting a small shanty as near as he could calculate on the township line of the government survey, though it proved to be a little west. After making his claim and completing the necessary arrangements to hold it, Judge Thompson returned to his former home, whence he came with his family to his new home in Olmsted county early in

\*Since the account of the early settlements was prepared for the compositor, the writer has been informed that a Mr. Goss settled in the township of Pleasant Grove, and commenced improving his farm in the spring of 1852.

the spring of 1854. The same spring, Simon Harding, Mr. Knap, Mr. Waller, G. C. Sheeks and others came in, settling near Judge Thompson's.

In December, 1853, a party of some dozen men came into Elmira township on an exploring expedition and stayed through the winter. The names of some of these gentlemen were T. B. Twiford, G. Willis, William B. Gere, J. J. Hubbard, James McClellan, James Munday, Henry Gere and Franklin Blodget. These were followed in the summer of 1854 by Messrs. F. A. Coffin, Thomas Holmes, Joseph Tatrow, Charles Redfield and others. James McClellan built the first frame house in Olmsted county. The house, now twenty-eight years old, stands in that portion of the village of Chatfield situated in Olmsted county, and is to-day a comfortable and well-preserved structure. Mr. McClellan died in 1855.

If the records are not at fault, the first real settlement — house-keeping, and the “women-folks” at home — was made in the village of Pleasant Grove, by Philo S. Curtis and family, in October, 1853. Mr. Curtis opened the first hotel in town. He was appointed postmaster when the office was first established, and was the first sheriff elected in the county.

It was in the spring and summer of 1854, when the rapid, flowing tide of immigration to Olmsted county really set in. It was then that active, earnest operations commenced in the way of locating and improving farms, building homes and schoolhouses, constructing mills and bridges, laying out and improving highways, locating and building city and villages, together with all the varied industries and enterprises which have so rapidly and wonderfully developed our natural resources, and placed Olmsted county in point of wealth, population, improvement, enterprise, intelligence and desirableness of habitation in the front rank of counties, not only in the state, but in the northwest.

In the year of which we speak, and for several succeeding years, settlements spread all over the county, every locality receiving its quota of newcomers.

In the fall of 1854, Benjamin Bear made a claim near the center of the town of Eyota, and in the May following he moved his family thither. The same season, H. G. Freeman, William Potter, Charles Keyes, Clark Brown and several others came on and settled in the vicinity of Mr. Bear's home.

High Forest township was visited by a small exploring party



from La Crosse, Wisconsin, in the spring of 1854. The party consisted of Rev. J. C. Sherwin, John Robinson and Dr. Balcome. These were soon after followed by Owen Shephard, John Wight and others, when a permanent settlement was begun.

The first settlement made in Marion township was in April, 1854. Among the first settlers there were Alfred Kinney, Levi Phelps, Nathan Phelps, Eleazer Phelps and George Mills.

In the summer of 1854, Samuel Brink, S. P. Amsden, William Kilroy, J. N. Palmer, C. Colegrove and a few others, settled in New Haven township.

In March, 1854, Leonard B. Hodges, J. B. Clark and Ebenezer Collins made the first settlement in the town of Oronoco.

In the summer of the same year Mr. Schermerhorn, Joel Ballard, David Hazelton and a few others settled in Orion township. In the fall, these were followed by Stephen Case, C. L. Case and a number of others.

The first settlement in Salem was made in June, 1854, by J. B. Dearborn, J. W. Hurd and Albert B. Hurd. Carl Beirbaum and Mr. Whitman located in Viola the same summer.

The first settlement within the present limits of the city of Rochester was made by Thomas C. Cummings and Robert McReady in the spring of 1854. They made their claims and built their shanties on the west side of Cascade creek, near the spot where now stands the residence of the late M. W. Leland. In the month of July following, George and Jonathan Head with their father made claims where the business part of the city is now situated.

An incident which occurred in the early days of Rochester, and which shows that the spirit of patriotism stirs the heart and mind of the American citizen even on the most remote frontier, and while isolated from the more busy scenes and centers of a dense population and civilized life, is worth recording. The first celebration of the fourth of July in Rochester, and so far as we know, in Olmsted county, was held in 1854. The occasion was one of primitive simplicity, being entirely free from the excessive tumult and wearisome conventionalities which generally characterize Independence celebrations in older and more populous communities. Mr. McReady, his wife and two little ones, with Mr. Cummings, constituted the entire concourse on the occasion of which we speak. Although removed from the busy haunts where "men most do congregate," our hardy pioneers were desirous not only of having a holiday but of com-

memorating the anniversary of the nation's birth. As fleet horses and fine carriages were out of the question, the celebrators had recourse to an improvised and primitive mode of conveyance. Attaching a pole or "ox-tongue" to the hind axletree of a lumber-wagon and placing thereon some boards, a vehicle was soon constructed. It was proposed to spend the day in hunting and fishing, viewing the landscape, and like rural amusements. Mrs. McReady and the two children being safely seated upon the western "sulky," and the two men being armed with their fowling-pieces and a fish-spear hastily constructed for the occasion, fell into line and the "procession" set out on their Fourth of July excursion. Coming to the river our fishermen plied their spear and were successful in soon capturing a fine string of excellent fish. The little party then left the river and repaired to a beautiful bluff just north of the city, and from which a magnificent view of the valley and surrounding bluffs for miles around was obtained. Here the patriotic band fired several guns in honor of the day, and here, amid the grand and enchanting beauty of nature's skillful handiwork, were concluded the exercises of the day, and the small band of patriots repaired to their humble homes.

In accordance with the general plan of this volume, we have here given but brief accounts of the early settlements in some of the townships. More extended and detailed accounts of the first settlement and subsequent history of each township will be given in the course of this work.

For several years succeeding the earlier settlements, the tide of immigration continued to pour in, and the county was rapidly occupied and improved by an industrious and enterprising people. Almost every quarter-section in the county susceptible of cultivation—and there are very few which are not—has been improved; city and villages, noted for their thrift and enterprise as well as for the morality, intelligence and refinement of their inhabitants, have been built; the broad prairies have been transformed into convenient and productive farms; cosy and comfortable, and in many instances, elegant and capacious farmhouses are seen on every hand; fine and substantial schoolhouses, in convenient and appropriate localities, attest the intelligence and culture of the citizens—all demonstrating the excellence and the superior qualities of the natural resources of the county, and the wonderfully enterprising and progressive spirit of the Great Northwest.

## CHAPTER II.

### ORGANIZATION.

THE county was established under the territorial government in 1855, but was not organized into towns till the spring of 1858. Previous to this it was merely divided into election precincts. It now includes eighteen townships, each six miles square. T. 108, in R. 11 and 12, are attached to Wabasha county, thus preventing the symmetrical proportions which Olmsted county was entitled to. We have already spoken of the twelve sections, detached from Mower county, and attached to the townships of High Forest and Rock Dell.

The city of Rochester is the county seat, and is situated near the center of the county. It is fifty miles west of Winona and seventy-five miles southeast of St. Paul. The fixing of the county seat, as in many other instances of a similar character, involved a struggle. The pretty and flourishing village of Oronoco, in the northwestern part of the county, had sprung into active, bustling life, while Marion, another neat and handsome village, beautifully located some seven or eight miles south of the city, had grown up. The city of Rochester, and the villages of Oronoco and Marion became competitors for the county seat. At an election held in the various precincts in the spring of 1857, the question was to be decided. Oronoco, being situated near the boundary line of the county, concluded that its chances for the honors and profits of a county seat were in nowise flattering, and hence united its strength with Marion as against Rochester. The results of the canvass showed that, although the Marion party had beaten the Rochester party in counting, the latter had scored a real victory in voting. The officers chosen at the first establishment of the county, in 1855, were: commissioners, James George, G. P. Barrows and James Rutan; register of deeds, J. N. McLane; assessor, Michael Pearce; sheriff, Philo S. Curtis; treasurer, Alfred Kinney; judge of probate, R. Ottman. The board of commissioners held their first meeting at Oronoco, August 27, 1855. So far as the record shows, little business was transacted, and the board adjourned to meet at Rochester

September 13, following. The principal business done at this session, was to consider some petitions for the organization of school districts and election precincts. The meeting was adjourned to October 1. At the October meeting very little business was done, and the board adjourned to November 12. This session closed the business of 1855.

The board of commissioners, in 1856, consisted of E. B. Barrows, John Lowery and James Rutan. The first meeting of the board that year was on January 7. Sessions of the board were held from time to time throughout the year, and several more election precincts were established, and judges of election appointed. The first bills presented the board for allowance were presented at the July session of 1856. The bills were principally for services for viewing, surveying and laying out highways. The whole amount of taxable property for the year, \$807,588.

County tax, $7\frac{1}{2}$ mills .....	\$6,606.91
School tax, $2\frac{1}{2}$ mills .....	2,168.97
Territorial tax, 1 mill .....	867.48
Total tax. ....	<u>\$9,643.46</u>

The board in 1857 consisted of John Lowery, Hiram Thompson and D. B. Coe. At the annual session of the board in January, James A. Bucklin filed his bond of county treasurer with James Bucklin, Henry Woodard, B. S. Coe and Asa Lesuer as sureties.

The amount of School fund for this year which was collected by tax was. ....	\$631.63
Collected from fines .....	46.00
Total school fund .....	<u>\$677.63</u>

We append the above figures to show from what small beginnings the county has grown within the lapse of twenty-six years. As yet the county was without a county building. The courts were held at Morton's hall, in the two-story frame building which yet stands at the corner of Main and Third streets. The board of county commissioners met in Dr. McLane's office, a small wooden building occupying a portion of the site where now stands the Cook House block. At the session of the board, July 12, 1856, John Lowery, E. A. McMahon and J. N. McLane were appointed a committee to make arrangements for erecting a suitable building for the use of the county. At the August session the committee made their report, which was accepted and placed on file. In the month



of September following, the commissioners held another session, when they passed a resolution instructing the committee on county buildings to prepare and submit to the board, a specific contract, embodying the terms of a proposition made by C. H. Lindsley to supply the county with convenient offices and court-room. These arrangements resulted in the erection of the building on Broadway known as the "old court-house," and now owned and occupied by Mr. N. Peters as a hotel and boarding-house. In the fall of 1858, as near as we can ascertain, the county, through its officers, took formal possession of the building. In 1857 Emery Mapes was elected register of deeds; sheriff, G. W. Baker; county attorney, Stiles P. Jones; county treasurer, W. P. Brooks; judge of probate, Hiram Thompson. These officers elect, qualified the first week in January, 1858. The board of commissioners for this year consisted of John Lowery, L. B. Bliss and B. D. Coe. In the fall of 1858, D. M. Evans was elected clerk of the county board of supervisors, this body taking the place of the county board of commissioners, and consisting of the following named gentlemen: J. W. Everstine, S. Risker, C. H. Lindsley, C. H. Short, Ethan Kimball, L. B. Bliss, T. S. Cornish, M. Pearce, Abram Harkins, John Kilroy, Elhanan Day, D. L. King, James Bucklin, G. C. Sheiks, T. T. Olds, J. A. Coffin, Cyrus Cornell, William Russell, David Whitney, A. J. Doty, O. A. Hadley, Chester Rose, J. W. Everest. In 1859 L. B. Bliss was elected register of deeds; G. W. Baker was re-elected sheriff; C. C. Jones was elected clerk of the district court and J. A. Leonard county attorney. In April, 1858, the county was organized into towns, under the new state government, as follows: Cascade, T. 107, R. 14; Dover, T. 106, R. 11; Eyota, T. 106, R. 12; Elmira, T. 105, R. 11; Farmington, T. 108, R. 13; Haverhill, T. 107, R. 13; High Forest, T. 105, R. 14, also including Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of T. 104 in said range; Kalmar, T. 107, R. 15, except Secs. 1, 2 and 3 in said town and range; Marion, T. 106, R. 13; New Haven, T. 108, R. 15, and also Secs. 1, 2 and 3 in T. 107, R. 15; Orion, T. 105, R. 12; Oronoco, T. 108, R. 14; Pleasant Grove, T. 105, R. 13; Quincy, T. 107, R. 11; Rochester, T. 106, R. 14; Rock Dell, T. 105, R. 13, also Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of T. 104 in said range; Salem, T. 106, R. 15; Viola, T. 107, R. 12. At the time of organization the town of Dover was called Whitewater, the town of Eyota was called Springfield, and the town of Haverhill was called

Zumbro; afterward it was called Sherman, subsequently it was given its present name.

At the annual town meetings, in March, 1860, the manner of conducting the county affairs was again changed. The county was divided into five commissioner districts, and one commissioner was elected from each district. The first board of commissioners was composed as follows: Thomas Brooks, Abram Harkins, Zebina Handerson, Richard Hull and William M. Pierce. D. M. Evans retired from the office of county auditor, and O. A. Hadley was appointed to fill the office. In the fall of 1860 Mr. Hadley was elected to the office of county auditor.

At the election in the fall of 1855 W. D. Lowery, of Rochester, was elected to the upper house, or senate, of the territorial council, and J. H. Hartenbower was elected to the lower house, or house of representatives. Mr. Lowery held the office for two years. E. B. Barrows was elected to the house in 1857.

The convention of delegates having completed the state constitution, it was submitted to the people for ratification at the general election in the fall of 1857. The constitution providing for two senators and four representatives from each senatorial district, the people of the county proceeded in their election upon the supposition that the constitution would be adopted, and accordingly elected the full representation thus provided for. Charles H. Lindsley, of this city, and Emerson Hodges, of Eyota, were elected senators, and Sylvanus Burgess, E. A. Power, Samuel Lord and W. K. Tattersall were elected to the house of representatives.

In the fall of 1858 P. F. Lawshe, J. S. Sawyer, D. L. King and G. I. Covil were elected to the house, and Dr. H. Galloway and Emerson Hodges were chosen senators. From some cause, however, there was no session of the legislature that year and the members were not called into service, though the senators held their office for two years, and came up to their work in the winter of 1860, with G. W. Green, A. J. Olds, Abraham Ozmun and J. S. Sawyer as their colleagues in the lower house.

In the fall of that year Stiles P. Jones, of Rochester, was elected to the senate and Abram Harkins and W. K. Tattersall to the house of representatives. Mr. Jones died just before election in the fall of 1861, and J. V. Daniels, of Rochester, was elected to fill the vacancy; F. Johnson and Thomas Harris were elected to the house. At the same election O. P. Whitcomb was elected county treasurer; O. P.

Stearns, county attorney ; Reuben Reynolds, clerk of the district court, and Hiram Thompson, judge of probate. The same year the board of county commissioners consisted of Thomas Brooks, Amos Parks, Samuel H. Nichols, J. M. Greenman and Thomas Harris. O. P. Stearns having resigned the office of county attorney to enter the army, L. Barber was elected in the fall of 1863 to fill the vacancy. At the same election O. P. Whitcomb was elected county treasurer ; L. B. Bliss, register of deeds ; Horace Loomis, sheriff ; M. W. Fay, judge of probate ; court commissioner, M. W. Fay. This year the board of county commissioners consisted of W. D. Hurlbut, Amos Parks, S. H. Nichols, George Stocking and J. P. Moulton.

In the fall of 1864 J. V. Daniels was elected state senator, and Thomas H. Armstrong and J. P. Moulton were elected representatives. Abram Harkins was elected county auditor. This year L. Barber was elected judge of the third judicial district.

Four citizens of Olmsted county have held state office, as follows: David Blakely, of Rochester, secretary of state from 1863 to 1866.

In the fall of 1875 Samuel H. Nichols, of Salem, was elected clerk of the supreme court, and is the present incumbent, having been elected last fall for the third term of three years each.

In 1867 Thomas H. Armstrong, of High Forest, was elected lieutenant-governor and was re-elected to the same office in the fall of 1869.

O. P. Whitcomb, of Rochester, was elected auditor of state in the fall of 1872. He was re-elected in 1875 and 1878, holding the office for three terms of three years each.

In the fall of 1879 C. M. Start, of Rochester, was elected attorney-general. After serving in that capacity a little over one year, Mr. Start was appointed judge of the third judicial district, to fill the vacancy in that office created by the appointment of William Mitchell, the then incumbent, as one of the justices of the supreme court. In the fall of 1881 Mr. Start was elected judge of the third judicial district, a position which he now occupies.

At the session of the legislature in 1864 O. P. Stearns, of Rochester, was chosen United States senator, to fill out the unexpired term of Daniel S. Norton, deceased.

In the fall of 1865 L. B. Bliss was elected register of deeds ; O. P. Whitcomb, county treasurer ; Reuben Reynolds, judge of probate ; Horace Loomis, sheriff ; O. P. Stearns, county attorney ;

Alfred Blanchard, clerk of the district court. B. F. Perry, of Kalmar, and R. D. Hathaway, of Pleasant Grove, were elected representatives.

The board of county commissioners this year consisted of W. D. Hurlbut, Amos Parks, William Carson and R. S. Russell. This year the board of commissioners passed a resolution adopting the county superintendent system, provided for by a then recent act of the legislature, and at a session of the board held in September of the same year, Sanford Niles was appointed county superintendent of schools. He continued to hold the office by appointment for nearly twelve years.

In 1864 measures were taken by the board of commissioners looking to the erection of a more commodious and convenient county building. A tract of land, consisting of about three acres, and situated between Zumbro street on the south and Fourth street on the north, and between Hunter street on the east and Clark street on the west, in the city of Rochester, was purchased as the site for a new court-house. The same year plans and specifications for the new building were submitted and the contract for its erection was let to J. H. Grindall, of St. Paul. In the fall of 1866 the new court-house was ready for occupancy, and the county records and offices were removed therein. The total cost of the new court-house was \$32,000, for the payment of which no direct tax was levied. The funds in the county treasury, arising from the collection of delinquent taxes, together with interest on county funds, practically defrayed the entire expense. In this connection, it might be proper to state, that Olmsted was the first county in the state which became solvent after the general financial pressure of the few years immediately preceding the year last named.

Officers were elected in the fall of 1867, as follows: L. B. Bliss, register of deeds; county treasurer, O. P. Whitcomb; sheriff, William Brown; judge of probate, Reuben Reynolds; county attorney, C. M. Start; representatives, Charles Stewart, S. W. Eaton and Caleb Sawyer.

The board of commissioners for 1866 and 1867 consisted of W. D. Hurlbut, William Carson, Amos Parks, R. S. Russell and J. K. Randall.

In 1868 J. A. Leonard was elected state senator; representatives, R. D. Hathaway, B. S. Larsen and John Lathrop; board of county



commissioners, W. D. Hurlbut, William Carson, R. S. Russell, Edwin A. Doty and Henry J. Grant.

The following were elected county officers in 1869 : register of deeds, Thomas Brooks ; treasurer, A. Gooding ; judge of probate, S. W. Eaton ; sheriff, William Brown ; county attorney, Charles M. Start ; clerk of district court, C. T. Benedict. That year the board of county commissioners consisted of W. D. Hurlbut, William Carson, R. S. Russell, E. A. Doty and G. W. Wirt. Representatives chosen that year, Charles Stewart, S. W. Graham and B. S. Larsen.

In 1870 a good deal of unfriendly feeling was developed throughout the state toward the railroads. The companies were charged with unjust discriminations and with exorbitant and oppressive tariffs in the transportation of freights, especially of wheat and other farm produce to the eastern markets. Olmsted county, of course, was struck with the general feeling of dissatisfaction, and consequently was loud in her complaints. By many it was thought that these evils might and should be reached and remedied through the legislature. So strong was this feeling that the matter formed a prominent issue in the canvass for members of the legislature that year. L. B. Hodges, of Oronoco, an outspoken and uncompromising democrat, was nominated for state senator, in the interests of the farmers against the railroads. O. P. Stearns, of the city of Rochester, an attorney, was the republican candidate for senator. Both candidates canvassed the county pretty thoroughly, Mr. Hodges taking extra pains to ingratiate himself into the confidence and favorable consideration of the farming population, while his opponent, Mr. Stearns, confined himself mostly to the discussion of the usual party issues. The result was that Mr. Hodges was elected by a majority of between 200 and 300 votes, notwithstanding the county, on square partisan issues, was at the time good for from 800 to 1000 republican majority. R. A. Jones, Thomas W. Phelps and William Somerville were elected representatives the same fall. D. S. Hebbard was elected county auditor. The board of county commissioners that year was composed of R. S. Russell, G. W. Wirt, C. H. Chadbourn and Eugene S. Wooldridge.

At the session of the legislature in 1871, Olmsted county was divided into two senatorial districts, numbered respectively ninth and tenth. The ninth district was comprised of the towns of Quincy, Viola, Dover, Eyota, Marion, Elmira, Orion, Pleasant Grove, High Forest and Rock Dell, and the villages of Eyota

and High Forest. The tenth district was comprised of the towns of Salem, Kalmar, New Haven, Cascade, Oronoco, Haverhill, Rochester and Farmington, and the first, second and third wards of the city of Rochester. To each district were assigned one senator and two representatives. In the fall of the same year, Milo White was elected senator in the ninth district, and Arthur Gaskill and Peter Fenton representatives. In the tenth district, O. S. Porter was elected senator, and R. A. Jones and T. B. Lindsay representatives. The county officers chosen that year were as follows: County treasurer, A. Gooding; register of deeds, Thomas Brooks; sheriff, James A. Ellison; county attorney, C. M. Start; judge of probate, S. W. Eaton; court commissioner, O. O. Baldwin. The board of county commissioners for 1871 consisted of G. W. Wirt, E. S. Wooldridge, F. T. Olds, E. H. Dewey and A. Burnap.

In the Grant and Greeley presidential campaign of 1872 there were quite a number of republicans in the county who left the party and cast their political fortunes with the Greeley movement. They were styled "Liberal Republicans." But the county went republican that fall as usual. D. S. Hebbard was re-elected county auditor; Milo White was returned to the state senate from the ninth district. M. L. Tibbetts and Marcus Wing were elected representatives in the ninth district, and Thomas B. Lindsay and M. C. Fuller representatives in the tenth.

The republicans gained the ascendancy in the county in 1857, and held it until 1873. The average majority was fully 800, and a republican nomination was ordinarily equivalent to an election, but in the last year named the politics of the county underwent quite a revolution. A succession of partial failures of the wheat crop, combined with a real or supposed system of oppressive taxation, and perhaps, more than all, with a general uneasiness and desire for a change, had sown the seeds for a political revolt. The farmers were among the first to feel the effects of "hard times," and laboring under the conviction that somehow the government, both state and national, and both republican, was responsible for the financial difficulties, many of them sought for relief at the ballot-box. Granges, or lodges of "Patrons of Industry," were instituted all over the county, the declared object of which was the protection of the agriculturists against the monied and trading classes. The disaffected ones also became inveterate and persistent anti-monopolists and so-called reformers, and what was specially noticeable, and not a little sur-

prising, these elements of dissatisfaction and desire for a change were largely confined to the republican party. At the fall election in 1873 these disintegrating forces made themselves felt at the polls. Whether through design or from accident, the patrons, anti-monopolists and reformers readily coalesced with the democrats, and at the election last named, the following-named persons were elected: Register of deeds, L. E. Cowdery, democrat; treasurer, J. L. Wright, disaffected republican; clerk of district court, H. T. Hannon, disaffected republican; judge of probate, J. W. Fulkerson, democrat; county attorney, C. M. Start; sheriff, James A. Ellison; court commissioner, O. O. Baldwin; county surveyor, Thomas Hunter; coroner H. Galloway, democrat, Messrs. Ellison, Start, Hunter and Baldwin being the only republicans elected to the several county offices. I. M. Westfall, disaffected republican, was elected state senator for the tenth district, and F. T. Olds and M. Dosdall, both democrats, were chosen representatives. In the ninth district, C. T. Shellman and John Hyslop, both disaffected republicans, were elected representatives.

Whether the political change was productive of the beneficial results desired or anticipated, is a question not easily solved. One thing, however, is certain, the county secured a corps of first-class officers.

The board of commissioners for 1873 were F. T. Olds, A. Burnap, G. W. Wirt, P. Hoganson and E. H. Dewey.

In the fall of 1874, county and district officers were elected as follows: County auditor, A. Biermann; court commissioner, O. O. Baldwin; coroner, G. W. Nichols, state senator, ninth district, Milo White; representatives, L. M. Gaskill, Burr Deuel. Tenth district, representatives, J. V. Daniels, William Brown.

This year the board of commissioners consisted of Thomas Brooks, Joseph Tait, P. Hoganson, George W. Wirt and M. Kepner.

At the election in the fall of 1875 the following-named persons were elected: Register of deeds, L. E. Cowdery; treasurer, J. L. Wright; sheriff, J. A. Ellison; county attorney, Charles M. Start; judge of probate, J. W. Fulkerson; coroner, G. W. Nichols; county surveyor, Thomas Hunter. A. Burnap and H. M. Stanchfield were elected representatives from the ninth district. In the tenth district J. V. Daniels was chosen state senator and E. P. Whiting and W. H. White representatives.

Thomas Brooks, O. Cravath, Peter Hoganson, W. H. White and

M. Kepner comprised the board of county commissioners for this year.

At the session of the legislature for 1876 an act was passed authorizing certain counties in the state to elect county superintendent, Olmsted county being included in the list.

In the fall of 1876 the following-named persons were elected: County auditor, A. Biermann; county superintendent, M. G. Spring; state senator in the ninth district, B. Deuel; representatives, Thomas W. Phelps and Marcus Wing. In the tenth district, E. P. Whiting and George W. Pugh were chosen representatives.

The board of county commissioners for 1876 consisted of Thomas Brooks, O. Cravath, M. Kepner, Henry Postier and John Cornwell.

As early as 1874 or 1875 the politics of the county began to be agitated by what is known as greenbackism or fiatism. The advocates of this theory maintained that the financial system of the country was radically wrong. They claimed that the public debt should be paid in greenbacks; besides, they argued in favor of other measures of reform or change in the conduct of the national finances. This new theory found favor with many of the voters in the county, and here, as well as elsewhere, it became a political issue of considerable force and magnitude. As fate or luck would have it, the greenback policy found its warmest welcome and most persistent advocates among the disaffected republicans, but, for political purposes, they sometimes fused with the democrats.

At the election in the fall of 1877 A. F. Keyes, greenbacker, was elected county treasurer; register of deeds, L. E. Cowdery; sheriff, W. H. White; clerk of district court, H. T. Hannon; county attorney, H. A. Eckholdt; judge of probate, H. H. Richardson; county commissioner, W. S. Booth; county surveyor, Thomas Hunter. On December 22, of the same year, Mr. Richardson died, and D. S. Hebbard was appointed judge of probate by the governor.

The same year D. A. Morrison was elected state senator. A. Burnap and John Hyslop were chosen representatives from the ninth district; James Button and Charles E. Stacy were elected representatives in the tenth district.

The board of commissioners that year consisted of James N. Coe, John Cornwell, H. Postier, W. J. Rank and O. Cravath.

In 1878 A. Biermann was re-elected county auditor; Henry C. Butler, judge of probate; M. G. Spring, county superintendent; O. O. Baldwin, court commissioner. O. H. Page was elected state



senator in the ninth district, and Peter Fenton and Charles P. Russell representatives. In the tenth district D. A. Morrison was re-elected state senator; Charles E. Stacy and R. A. Jones representatives. The board of county commissioners for that year consisted of J. N. Coe, John Cornwell, H. Postier, W. J. Rank and Joseph Tait.

By the year 1879 the republicans had again acquired the ascendancy in the county, electing their entire ticket in the fall of that year, excepting sheriff. The ticket was as follows: County treasurer, G. A. Frizzell; register of deeds, M. R. Wood; sheriff, W. H. White; county attorney, H. A. Eckholdt; coroner, G. W. Nichols; surveyor, Thomas Hunter. The state constitution having been amended, providing for biennial sessions of the legislature, there was no legislative ticket elected that year. The board of commissioners for that year consisted of J. N. Coe, John Cornwell, H. Postier, W. J. Rank and William Freeman.

In 1880 the following-named officers were elected: County auditor, C. A. Whited; judge of probate, H. C. Butler; county superintendent of schools, M. G. Spring; coroner, F. R. Mosse. In the ninth district, Milo White was elected state senator, and Ole Juleson and C. A. Butterfield representatives. In the tenth district, J. V. Daniels and O. S. Porter were chosen representatives. This year the board of commissioners consisted of J. N. Coe, John Cornwell, William Freeman, B. F. Bulen and F. L. Tesca.

At a special session of the legislature held in the fall of 1881, another legislative apportionment was made. Under the new apportionment Olmsted county constitutes one senatorial district, numbered 14, and three representative districts, allowing the county one state senator and three representatives. The western district is comprised of the towns of Cascade, Kalmar, Rock Dell, New Haven, Oronoco, Farmington, Haverhill, and the village of Byron. Eastern district: Viola, Quincy, Eyota, Dover, Elmira, Orion, Pleasant Grove, High Forest and Salem townships, and the villages of Eyota and High Forest. The central district is comprised of the towns of Rochester and Marion, and the first, second and third wards of the city of Rochester.

At the election in the fall of 1881 the following-named persons were elected: County treasurer, G. A. Frizzell; register of deeds, M. R. Wood; clerk of court, C. H. Heffron; county attorney, F. B. Kellogg; sheriff, Henry M. Richardson; county surveyor,

Thomas Hunter. The board of commissioners this year was comprised of J. N. Coe, F. L. Tesca, B. F. Bulen, L. B. Josselyn and William Freeman.

The election in the fall of 1882 resulted as follows: County auditor, C. A. Whited; judge of probate, H. C. Butler; superintendent of schools, F. L. Cook; state senator, D. A. Morrison; representative in eastern district, E. D. Dyar; western district, J. Frahm; central district, M. J. Daniels. Milo White, of Elmira, was elected representative in congress for the first congressional district. The board of commissioners for this year consisted of J. N. Coe, L. B. Josselyn, O. Seeverts, J. W. Flathers and James T. Price. The population of the county is now about 25,000.

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## CHAPTER III.

### THE INDIANS—THE PRESS.

For one or two years after the first settlement of the county there were small bands of Sioux Indians roving about, hunting in the woods and fishing in the streams. Mitchell, in his history of the town of Salem, says: "During the winter of 1854-5 the Indians, in passing through the town, on their way from one belt of timber to another, made Mr. Hurd's house a regular stopping-place. From twenty to twenty-five would sometimes come into his small house at a time and ask, and even demand, whatever they wanted, and Mr. Hurd, with a frank generosity, never let them go away empty-handed, but satisfied all their wants. They never molested anyone, but, being hungry, they demanded the means to satisfy the cravings of their appetites."

The presence of Indians frequently startled the women and children, but in the year 1856 most of the red men stole away and very few of them were ever afterward seen in the county. For the following piece of Indian narrative we are indebted to James Bucklin, Esq., of the city of Rochester: In the fall of 1854 about two hundred Indians camped on the river bottom, east of the site of John M. Cole's old flouring-mill. They remained there about six weeks, and during the time four of their number, three males and

one female, died from sickness. From the pustules which came out on the diseased ones, together with other symptoms, it was thought that they had the small-pox; but as the disease did not spread, it was concluded that the malady was not small-pox. The Indian doctor, whose name was Muzomoney, said the woman who died had eaten some honey and swallowed a bee, which stung her in the throat or stomach and killed her. Through fear or superstition, or from some other impulse, the Indians engaged the whites to bury their dead. The bodies were buried on a bluff nearly west of the site where the Cascade mill now stands. There were, in all, eight bodies of deceased Indians buried there, and the spot has ever since been known as the "Indian burying-ground."

On account of the sickness referred to, the chief ordered a removal to another camping-ground. This time they moved to a point about one mile south of the city of Rochester, near the present residence of Mr. John Bamber. Two more male Indians died during the winter; one of the same disease as the first named; the other, the chief Coskass, died from injuries received from being kicked by a pony. The chief was a smart young fellow, not more than twenty years of age. The Indians hired James A. Bucklin and Lewis Bucklin to bury the body of the dead chief. These men constructed a coffin out of puncheons. Placing the remains on a sled, drawn by oxen, they set out for the burying-ground, nearly or quite two miles distant. Several of the Indians followed the remains about two-thirds of the way, when all but one of the number stopped and turned back to the camp. This one, seemingly more courageous or more deferential than his companions, followed on, though at considerable distance in the rear of the funeral procession.

Soon after the death of chief Coskass, an Indian maiden, named Winona, was taken sick with the same disease which afflicted the band when encamped near Cole's mill, and chief Haboo ordered another removal. This time they removed to the head of a ravine on the north side of the bluff, north of the present residence of Dr. Eaton. This was in midwinter, yet the Indians left the poor sick girl in the sick tepee, without wood, food or water. After remaining there a couple of days and nights, she recovered sufficiently to get up, and by great effort succeeded in walking to the house of Mr. James Bucklin, a distance of about one-half mile from the camp. Mr. Bucklin's people took the poor suffering maiden in and kindly ministered to her wants and necessities. The next day Mr. Bucklin

sent a messenger to the new Indian camp, to inform the unfeeling savages of the whereabouts and condition of the sick maiden Winona. Whereupon her father, Dr. Muzomoney and chief Haboo came over to Mr. Bucklin's, with a pony hitched to a rude pung, and took Winona over to the camp. Before leaving, the sick girl made Mrs. Bucklin a present of an excellent case-knife, and when Wayne Bucklin, then a young man, went over to the camp a few days afterward, Winona, who was now rapidly recovering from her sickness, persuaded him to accept from her a fine pair of buckskin moccasins. In the spring the Indians all left, and this was the last which was seen of the Sioux in the county.

For some five or six years afterward, small parties of Winnebagoes, who had a reservation on the Lesuer river, were occasionally seen strolling back and forth through the county on their way to and from their former home in Wisconsin. The Winnebagoes were very fond of gambling, and for stakes would put up their buffalo robes or other articles which they might have about them. It is said that a small party of these Indians camped a short time on or near Zumbro street, a few rods west of the court-house, in the year 1862.

#### THE PRESS.

The newspaper has, in these modern times, become an indispensable element in true progress and genuine civilization. In the agricultural, commercial, educational and religious world, the newspaper is becoming to wield a mighty force. It is at once the medium of thought, the exponent of principles, an agency which, in large measure, gives tone and character to society and garners up for present use and future reference and reflection, faithful accounts of the world's activities. The American people are, emphatically, a reading people. No village, town or city, in these days of progress and enterprise, expects to grow and prosper without the newspaper. The printing-office fills a niche and supplies a want which will not admit of a substitute. The earlier settlers of Olmsted county showed a lively appreciation of the value of the newspaper. The first newspaper published in this county was started in the fall of 1856, only two years after the first occupancy of the county by white men. At the time of which we speak, "The Oronoco Courier," a seven-column newspaper, was established at the thriving and pleasant village of Oronoco, by a joint stock company, consisting of Leonard B. Hodges, John B. Clark, E. S. Collins, Reuben Ottman



and E. Allen Power. The outfit for the office was purchased at Dubuque, Iowa, and John B. Flynn, of that place, was employed as foreman of the office. The services of Dr. H. Galloway, afterward of Rochester but now residing at Fargo, Dakota, were secured by the company as editor-in-chief, and E. A. Power was employed as local editor. The "Courier" was conducted with much vigor and ability, and ranked among the first-class newspapers in the territory. When the financial crisis of 1857 came on, the "Courier's" existence ceased. That was the first and last effort to publish a newspaper at Oronoco, if we may except a small advertising sheet gotten up by Mr. M. W. Clay some two or three years ago, but now discontinued.

Messrs. Evans and Robbins came to Rochester from the east in the winter of 1857 and established a small weekly newspaper entitled "The Olmsted County Journal." The paper was conducted upon the independent plan until the following fall, when John H. Hyatt and Martin L. Stewart purchased the office and commenced the publication of the "Rochester Free Press," in the winter of 1858. These gentlemen continued the publication of the paper until the June following, when they in turn sold out to Fred A. Soule, who continued its publication, with himself as editor and J. R. Drew as publisher, for about one year, when it was discontinued.

In September, 1857, Charles Cottam commenced the publication of "The Rochester Democrat." The "Democrat" was an eight-column paper, printed on bourgeois type, finely executed. In politics it was intensely democratic, as its name indicated. It was the first and only democratic paper ever published in the county until the fall of 1865. Mr. Cottam continued the publication of his paper until November, 1859, when it was discontinued.

The "Rochester City News" made its first appearance about the last of October, 1859, under the management of C. W. Blaisdell, who was also proprietor. The "News" was a neutral paper, having no fixed principles about anything, but striving to accommodate itself to all, and, as a consequence, meeting with very poor success. It went to the shades at the end of about one year.

Messrs. David and Cyrenus Blakely commenced the publication of the "Rochester City Post" about November 1, 1859. The material was brought from Austin, Minnesota, and the "Post" started under auspicious and promising circumstances. The proprietors were practical printers and excellent business men. The

"Post" was republican in politics, and as that party were largely in the ascendancy in the county, it could hardly fail of success. The office was well equipped for newspaper as well as job work, and the proprietors soon were favored with a large amount of state, county and private patronage.

During the year 1863-4-5, Mr. David Blakely being absent at St. Paul, as secretary of state, W. S. Booth, George Bisbee and S. W. Eaton, all took turns in the editorial management of the "Post." After conducting the paper for six years Messrs. Blakely sold their entire interest to Messrs. J. A. Leonard and W. S. Booth, who materially enlarged the paper and changed it from folio to quarto form, and dropping the word "City" from the title of the paper. Within a year, however, it was changed back to folio. In June, 1867, Messrs. Leonard and Booth purchased the subscription list and good will of the "Rochester Republican," of which paper we shall soon speak, at the same time engaging the services of S. W. Eaton as associate editor. The "Post" was conducted by Messrs. Leonard and Booth until the fall of 1875, when Mr. Leonard became the sole owner of the establishment. The partnership was dissolved and Mr. Booth gave up his entire interest in the business. In July, 1881, Mr. Leonard having received the appointment of United States consul at Leith, Scotland, he leased the office to Messrs. L. H. and P. S. Kelly, who are the present managers and publishers, under the firm name of Kelly Brothers, with S. W. Eaton as editor. The "Post" was issued daily through the six state fairs which have been held at Rochester. Messrs. Kelly Brothers, the present publishers of the "Post," got out the first and only "City Directory" of Rochester in 1873. They published five hundred copies of this work.

In the fall of 1860, W. H. Mitchell and Dr. L. H. Kelly purchased the material of the "Rochester News," and with it commenced the publication of the "Rochester Republican," a radical republican sheet, as the name indicated. The next year R. H. Hoag, putting in a press and some other material which he brought from Northfield, Minnesota, acquired an interest in the "Republican," Dr. Kelly retiring from the concern. In the summer of 1862 Mr. Hoag enlisted in the army, and Mr. Mitchell was left sole owner and manager of the "Republican" until November of the same year, when S. W. Eaton, then recently from Green Lake county, Wisconsin, purchased an undivided half interest in the

paper, and became a partner of Mr. Mitchell in its publication. In the spring of 1864 Mr. Eaton re-sold his interest in the establishment to Mr. Mitchell, who continued as editor and proprietor of the paper until the fall of 1865, when he sold it to Messrs. U. B. Shaver and S. W. Eaton. These gentlemen conducted the paper under the firm name of Shaver & Eaton until the spring of 1867, when it was disposed of to Leonard & Booth, as before stated. In the arrangement Mr. Shaver held the material of the office, which he removed to Kasson and commenced the publication of the "Dodge County Republican." In the spring of 1863 Dr. Kelly, having purchased of Mr. Hoag the material which the latter had put into the office of the "Rochester Republican," he removed the same to Owatonna, and started the "Plaindealer," the first newspaper published in that city.

In October, 1865, the "Federal Union," a democratic paper, was started by the "Federal Union" Printing Association, Mr. H. S. Knapp, then recently from Ohio, editor and manager. The "Union" was a large eight-column sheet, and very nicely printed on type newly purchased in Chicago. Mr. Knapp was a rapid and pleasing writer; socially he was every inch a gentleman, and politically, a democrat of the old school. Somewhat advanced in years, Mr. Knapp's sojourn of a half-dozen years in Minnesota failed to inspire him with that energy, push and enterprise characteristic of the great Northwest, and which are so essential to newspaper success, especially in small towns and cities. While politically he made the paper intensely democratic in tone and purpose, in the local news department it was not so much a success. In 1869 Mr. Knapp transferred his share of the stock in the paper to his son, Trevitt, and retired from the business. The same year one Nelson D. Porter, also from Ohio, got possession of Mr. Knapp's interest and assumed the management of the paper. Mr. Porter continued to conduct the paper until June, 1870, when his share of the stock was sold on a judgment previously obtained against him in the district court by H. S. Knapp. This stock was bid in by Col. George Healy, who soon after purchased the balance of the stock. About this time Mr. Healy contracted one-half interest to H. H. Young, the latter to conduct the business and edit the paper. Mr. Young failed to make the payments stipulated, and the transaction was not vastly profitable to Col. Healy. The establishment was next leased by Mr. Healy to Mr. Young and James Button for one year. At

the expiration of the year Col. Healy took possession of the office, and subsequently sold it to Mr. Young. In the several mutations which the "Federal Union" experienced about these years, M. A. Burbank acquired some interest in the establishment, just what, or how much, or for what length of time, our records do not state. Mr. Young continued the publication of the paper until March, 1864, when it was consolidated with the "Minnesota Record," then owned and conducted by A. W. Blakely, and of which paper we shall make mention in due time. The title of the newly-consolidated paper was the "Record and Union," Messrs. Young and Blakely editors and proprietors.

In the fall of 1874 Mr. Young sold out to S. D. Hillman, and the publishing firm was changed to Blakely & Hillman. In December, 1879, Mr. Hillman transferred his interest to C. T. Coerr, and in the following February Mr. Blakely bought Mr. Coerr's interest and has since been and still is sole owner and publisher. The office is well stocked with material, both for newspaper and job work, the paper is printed on a steam-power press, and in politics it is "independent democratic."

In March, 1868, Messrs. Leonard & Booth, proprietors of the "Rochester Post," started a Scandinavian paper, the "Nordisk Folkeblad," under the editorial management of Mr. S. Christensen, formerly of La Crosse, Wisconsin. This was the first Scandinavian paper ever established west of the Mississippi river. The "Folkeblad" was a large eight-column paper, neatly worked, and judging from the commendations of Scandinavian readers and the general favor with which it met, the paper was ably edited. Its publication was continued in Rochester about nine months, when the paper and material were purchased by Mr. Christensen, who removed it to Minneapolis, and where he continued the publication of the paper for several years.

The "Central Record," a small paper, republican in politics, was started in December, 1870, by the "Record Printing Company," C. R. Conway, editor and publisher. "The Record" was conducted with variable success until January, 1873, when A. W. Blakely purchased it. He continued its publication up to March, 1874, when it was consolidated with the "Federal Union," as before stated.

In June, 1881, the "Rochester Herald," a German paper, was established by Krueger Brothers, who brought the material from



Wykoff, Fillmore county. In April, 1882, George Kuessner purchased the one-half interest in the establishment, and the paper is now being conducted by Messrs. Krueger & Kuessner.

O. F. Reed started the "Olmsted County Democrat" here in the fall of 1881. The paper was published, in a small way, as a democratic organ for three or four months, when its politics were slightly modified and the title changed to "National Tribune." In February, 1882, the paper was discontinued and the material shipped away.

In April, 1881, C. S. Powers commenced the publication of the "Rochester National," a greenback paper. The material was brought from Fountain, Fillmore county. The "National" was a large eight-column paper, finely executed and edited with much spirit and fair ability. Mr. Powers paid but little attention to either local or general news, but devoted most of his energies and newspaper space to the discussion of his peculiar political theories. At the end of about six months the paper was discontinued and the material conveyed back to Fountain, Mr. Powers claiming that he did not receive the patronage and financial support which had been promised him.

In the year 1871, T. G. Bolton commenced the publication of the "Eyota Advertiser." In the fall of 1873 Mr. Bolton sold the "Advertiser" to Messrs. Dyar & Ingham, who continued its publication until the summer of 1878, when it was discontinued.

E. A. Rising started the "Eyota Eagle" in the spring of 1878. Mr. Rising ran his paper a few months, when it was discontinued and the material removed to Sleepy Eye, at which place Mr. Rising commenced the publication of the "Sleepy Eye Wideawake."

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## CHAPTER IV.

### THE GREAT REBELLION.

IN 1860 came the great presidential contest, the most important, in some respects, since the formation of the government. The vote of the county was substantially divided between Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Douglas, the former having a majority. Scarcely had the rejoicings of the triumphant party over Mr. Lincoln's election ceased

ere there came from the south murmurs of discontent and anger. How they enlarged and increased through all that fateful winter, how state after state fell away from its allegiance, how the whole south resounded with the dreadful preparations for war, need not be recited here. All this is a part of the nation's history. In Olmsted county, as elsewhere throughout the north, men looked on in amazement, hoping, even to the last, for peace, deeming it impossible that the lunacy of secession could ever ripen into the open madness of rebellion. Few made any preparation for the event, yet nearly all were in that angry and excited condition which needs but a word to develop into the most determined action.

On the 15th of April, 1861, the daily papers contained the news of the bombardment and fall of Fort Sumter. The deadly strife had begun. "Grim-visaged war" had cast its gloomy and portentous shadow over the land. The nation was shocked and stunned as if visited by some great convulsion in nature. The Union was in fearful peril and the government threatened with annihilation. To save the Union and protect the government was the leading and all-absorbing thought and sentiment. All peaceful means to quiet the discontent and angry elements which had so long threatened the dissolution of the Union and the overthrow of the government had become exhausted, and the question of the life or death of the nation must be settled by the stern arbitrament of bloody war.

Perhaps no county in the east or west responded more promptly to the call of the president for help to crush the rebellion than did Olmsted county. With a population in 1861 of only about 12,000, she sent into the field 1,250 men, comprised mostly of the youthful and most vigorous and enterprising of the population. Those who survived the death-dealing casualties of war, returned with honor to their homes, with names written among the heroes of their country. Their comrades who fell on the field of battle, or succumbed to the ravages of disease, laid down their lives for their country, and their heroic devotion and self-sacrifice will be long and tenderly cherished in the hearts of their grateful countrymen.

However much we desire to give an entire history of the services of each Olmsted county hero, we find the accomplishment of the work next to impossible, as none of the records to which we have been able to obtain access afford the needed information. We shall endeavor to give the dates of the mustering into service of the companies, in whole or in part, recruited from Olmsted county men,

together with the number of the regiments to which they were assigned ; the subsequent movements and services of the regiments ; also brief accounts of the more memorable and striking events of the war in which our Olmsted county "boys" participated.

Co. B, 2d reg. Minn. Vol. Inf., was mostly raised in Olmsted county, and was mustered into the service of the United States at Fort Snelling June 22, 1861, to serve for three years, or during the war, under the command of the following-named officers : captain, William Markham ; first lieutenant, Daniel Heany ; second lieutenant, Abram Harkins. On February 15, 1862, Capt. Markham resigned. He was recommissioned and again resigned, July 19, 1862. Lieut. Heany was promoted to captain, December 4, 1861, and assigned to Co. C, 2d Minn., January 18, 1862. Second lieutenant Harkins was promoted to first lieutenant, December 1, 1861, and to captain July 19, 1862.

The regiment was originally under the command of Col. H. P. Van Cleve, with James George, late of Rochester, now deceased, as lieutenant-colonel. In March, 1862, Col. Van Cleve was promoted to brigadier-general, and Lieut.-Col. George was promoted to colonel of the regiment. Col. George continued in command of the regiment until June 28, 1864, when he resigned and returned to his farm at Oronoco, where he resided five years, moving to the city of Rochester in 1870, and where he continued to reside till his death, March 7, 1882.

During the months of July, August and September the regiment was kept on garrison duty in the several forts in the State of Minnesota. October 14, 1861, it was ordered to Washington. Arriving at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, it was ordered to Louisville, Kentucky, where it arrived October 22, and proceeded, the same day, to Lebanon Junction, Kentucky.

After several other marches the regiment arrived at Mill Spring, Kentucky, and took an honorable part in the battle fought there January 19, 1862, losing twelve men, killed, and thirty-three wounded. Among the killed of Olmsted county men were Hyrcanus C. Reynolds and John B. Cooper ; wounded, Milo Crumb, Andrew Driezke, Justus B. Chambers and John Eztell, and Capt. William Markham, the first two mortally. Of this engagement a participant in the fight says : " At the battle of Mill Spring the 2d regiment gained the reputation of being one of the best fighting in the army. Gen. Thomas was concentrating his army to

attack the rebel general Crittenden, who was encamped on the north side of the Cumberland. The advance of the Union army encamped about nine miles from Crittenden's camp, when he determined to attack Gen. Thomas before his main army arrived. Crittenden succeeded in driving the front of Thomas' army about one mile, when Col. Robert McCook, with the 9th Ohio and 2d Minn., met the enemy. Both regiments advanced through a thick grove to a rail fence. The rebels lay behind the fence and were not discovered by the Union forces until the contending forces were so near that guns were pulled from each others' hands. The battle was warm for a few minutes, when the rebels retreated and did not stop until they reached their camp."

At the battle of Mill Spring our brave "boys" had their first "baptism of fire," a significant prelude to still other scenes of deadly strife and heroic achievements which have won for them a record truly honorable and imperishable. On October 6, 1862, the regiment participated in a fight with the enemy at Springfield, Kentucky, and two days later they had another engagement at Perrysville, Kentucky. After various marches and countermarches the regiment went into camp at Triune, Tennessee, March 6, 1863. Here the regiment remained until the 23d day of June, when it started for Hoover's Gap, a strong rebel hold, and joined Gen. Thomas' corps in driving the rebels back to Tullahoma, which place was captured by the Union forces July 1. Moving thence, August 30, the army crossed the Tennessee river on rafts, for the purpose of flanking Chattanooga and compelling the rebels to evacuate that place. Within less than two months from that time the 2d Minn. was destined to take an active part in the memorable and bloody battle at Chickamauga, Tennessee, September 19 and 20, 1863. The regiment, now under the command of Col. George, fought bravely, while it lost heavily. Of the Olmsted county troops, Curtis L. Cutting, Samuel D. Calvert, Ambrose H. Palmer, Samuel Taylor and Flavius J. Crabb were killed. Wounded: John L. Kinney, A. V. Doty, Greenville Farrier and Capt. Harkins, the first three mortally. Capt. Harkins had his left arm shattered by a minie-ball striking the arm near the shoulder and penetrating downward, as the captain was in a stooping posture when struck. He was captured directly after being wounded, and on the third day afterward the crushed arm was amputated and the wound dressed. Capt. Harkins resigned June 20, 1864. George A. Baker was taken prisoner at



Chickamauga and sent to Andersonville prison. He was discharged in 1864. In November, 1863, the regiment was in another engagement at Mission Ridge, in which Benjamin F. Talbot was killed. Ashley W. Wood was captured at Chickamauga and died while a prisoner. The regiment, during the summer of 1864, was engaged in several battles and skirmishes at Resaca, Jonesboro, Atlanta and Kenesaw Mountain. It afterward went with Gen. Sherman in his grand march to the sea; thence through the Carolinas and Virginia to Washington, arriving there in the spring of 1865. The regiment was discharged at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, in the July following.

The 2d Minn. was the pride of its brave and noble commander, Col. George. Years after the close of the war, the colonel, being at a reunion of the soldiers, was called on to speak of that regiment. He said: "The 2d had never misunderstood an order, had never charged the rebels without driving them, was never charged by the rebels but the rebels were repulsed, had never retreated under the fire of the enemy."

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## CHAPTER V.

### MORE ABOUT THE WAR.

IN August, 1862, O. P. Stearns and M. J. Daniels opened a recruiting office in the city of Rochester, and in a few days they succeeded in enlisting 101 men, all of Olmsted county. Of these was formed Co. F, which was assigned to the 9th reg. Inf. Minn. Vols. The company was mustered into the service of the United States at Fort Snelling, September 24, 1862, with the following officers: captain, A. M. Enoch; first lieutenant, O. P. Stearns; second lieutenant, Milton J. Daniels. The regiment was under the command of Col. A. Wilkins.

The Sioux war, an event ever memorable in the annals of Minnesota, broke out in August of this year. From 1,200 to 1,500 white people were killed, many of them in the most cruel and bloodthirsty manner known to even savage brutality, and a large amount of property, consisting of dwellings, grain, hay, farming utensils, etc., destroyed. Lieut. Daniels was assigned by Gen. Pope to the command of a force of mounted infantry, made up from the 3d reg.

Minn. Vols., to assist in the pursuit and capture of the murderous Sioux, the expedition being under the command of Gen. Sibley. When near Camp Release, the force under Gen. Sibley succeeded in capturing five hundred of the savage warriors and conveying them prisoners to Mankato. In December following, thirty-eight of the most guilty ones were hung ; the balance were released and taken to a reservation beyond the limits of the state.

Late in the fall the regiment went into winter quarters at Fort Ridgely and were employed in building fortifications on the frontier. The same winter Capt. Enoch was accidentally shot through the breast with a pistol and resigned his command May 20, 1864. In April, 1864, Lieut. Stearns was promoted to colonel of a colored regiment, and Lieut. Daniels was promoted to captain of Co. F, A. M. Hall 1st lieut. and A. J. McMillen 2d lieut.

In October 1863, the regiment was ordered to report at St. Louis. In February it was sent on an expedition to Kansas City in pursuit of Quantrel's gang of murderers and outlaws, and in May following it had orders to report at Memphis, Tennessee. About the first of June, 1864, the regiment, now forming a part of A. J. Smith's corps, was sent from Memphis after the rebel Forest, with instructions to push on till he was found and beaten. The entire force consisted of nine thousand infantry and artillery with three thousand cavalry, the latter led by Gen. Grierson, all under the command of Gen. Sturgis. The Union army met but little opposition till near Guntown, on the Mobile railroad, where Grierson's troopers met Forest's cavalry and pushed it back vigorously on his infantry, which was strongly posted on a hill at the foot of which was a creek which could with difficulty be forded by infantry. Word was sent back to the infantry, now some five or six miles behind, and in an intensely hot day they were pushed forward at double quick to the scene of action. A letter written to the "Rochester Post" by Capt. Daniels, a few days after the disastrous affair, graphically says : " When we went into the fight, it was by regiments, as they arrived on the ground ; so they whipped us by regiments or in detail. We were obliged to ' go in ' on the double quick, and, as the day was very hot, many of our men fell in the road, sunstruck. The 9th entered the fight in good shape and drove the enemy in fine style, but we were soon called off to support a battery company. Co. F did bravely, and every man of them deserves great credit."

As if to add to the inexcusably bad management of the affair,

the train of more than two hundred wagons came rushing up with the infantry, filling the road and impeding the movement of the troops, who were now being parked within sight and range of the enemy's lines. The result was, the Union army was speedily and thoroughly routed, their train utterly lost and no supplies, no place of refuge, no reinforcements nearer than Memphis, fully one hundred miles distant. All order or organization was abandoned and the situation was: "Every man take care of himself the best he could." Large tracts of forests and groves, lonely and cheerless as they would have been under other circumstances, afforded shelter and hiding-places from the enemy and facilitated, in a good degree, the escape of many of the routed troops.

Twenty-three Olmsted county men were captured on the day of the battle or picked up afterward by the rebel forces, of which the woods seemed to be full.

The names of the captured ones, together with events in their prison experience, is here given. Francis J. Heller, of Rochester, captured at Guntown and taken to the rebel prison at Florence. While in prison he stepped one side to hang out his blanket and was shot dead. Henry Niles, of Salem, captured and taken to that slaughter-pen and consummation of southern barbarity and fiendishness, Andersonville prison. He was transferred from there to Millen, Georgia, from whence he escaped. He was again captured and sent with Heller to Florence. He was afterward released from prison and rejoined his regiment.

Edwin H. Adams, of Salem, taken to Andersonville; transferred to Florence, where he died in February, 1865.

John Burns, of Rochester, taken to Cahawba, Alabama, prison. Afterward released and discharged with his regiment.

Syvert Ellefson, Rock Dell, captured and sent to Cahawba, where he died of wounds received in the battle at Guntown.

Elisha and Orlando Geer, Pleasant Grove, both captured and sent to Andersonville. Elisha was transferred to Florence, where he died in December, 1864. Orlando died at Andersonville, July 12, 1864.

Henry H. Howard, Elmira, captured and taken to Cahawba. Released and discharged with the regiment.

Andrew C. McCoy, Salem, captured and sent to Andersonville. Afterward discharged with the regiment.

Alpheus Merritt, Kalmar, captured and taken to Andersonville.

Transferred to Florence. He escaped by climbing over the stockade, but was recaptured and sent to the rebel prison at Salisbury, North Carolina, where he died January 17, 1865.

Daniel McArthur, Farmington, captured and taken to Andersonville; afterward transferred to Charleston, South Carolina. He escaped by jumping from the cars while on the route, and was finally discharged with the regiment.

Eli Ruch, Stewartville, captured and sent to Andersonville. Subsequently transferred to Millen. No further record of him.

Richard R. Radcliff, Stewartville, captured and sent to Andersonville. Transferred thence to Charleston, thence to Florence, where he died, December, 1864.

George Saville, Farmington, captured and sent to Andersonville, thence to Florence. An event occurred in Saville's prison experience which may be here narrated, as illustrative of the cruelties and indignities endured by Union soldiers at the hands of rebels and traitors. Mr. Saville borrowed an ax of a negro to cut some wood outside the stockade. When he came inside he brought the ax, but it was not immediately restored to its proper place. The negro, having to account for the ax, told the authorities that he had loaned it to a Yankee. A rebel officer took the negro and went into the prison to find the man who had borrowed the ax. Saville was pointed out, when he and the negro were led out and Saville was sentenced to receive thirty lashes on the bare back, to be laid on by the "nigger." The negro performed the cruel task, when he, in return, was to be whipped the same number of blows by Saville. To this poor Saville demurred stoutly, and instinctively shrank from the execution of so infamous and barbarous an act. He was told, however, that if he refused to obey, the negro would be compelled to whip him the same number of lashes as before, when Saville, fearing for his life, inflicted on the poor negro the punishment ordered. Saville lived to get out of prison and was discharged with his regiment.

William Williams, Rochester township, captured and sent to Andersonville. From there he was sent to Florence; ordered to be transferred to Salisbury, and when about twenty-five miles from Florence, Williams jumped the train. This was February 16, 1865, and making his way cautiously through the enemy's country, he succeeded in reaching Fort Johnson, within the Union lines, about a week afterward. He was discharged with his regiment.



Oliver C. Whipple, Haverhill, captured and sent to Andersonville, where he died September 16, 1864.

Albert Holt, Salem, taken to Andersonville, where he soon died. Jacob Dieter, Farmington, captured and sent to Andersonville. As near as we can learn, Dieter, with other prisoners, was subsequently transferred to Charleston, and on the route he jumped the train and escaped. But it is supposed that he was recaptured and taken to Salisbury, where he died in November, 1864.

John Cassidy, Marion, taken to Andersonville, where he died October 12, 1864.

Lieut. A. M. Hall, Farmington, captured and sent to Andersonville. Subsequently transferred thence to Macon, Georgia, thence to Columbia, South Carolina. He managed to escape, but was recaptured and taken back to prison. Lieut. Hall was finally discharged with his regiment.

George H. Knapp, Stewartville, captured and taken to Andersonville. He soon died in prison.

William F. Lyon, Stewartville, captured and sent to Andersonville. Finally discharged with his regiment.

John L. Craig, Stewartville, captured and sent to Cahawba prison. Finally discharged with the regiment.

George Atkinson, Oronoco, captured and taken to Andersonville and died there.

We find the name of Samuel Chilsen, High Forest, among the captured at Guntown, but there is no further record of him excepting that he was finally discharged with his regiment. These men all belonged to Co. F, 9th reg., excepting George H. Knapp and William F. Lyon, who were members of Co. C, same regiment.

The following brief account of the experience of three of the Olmsted county men is worthy a place in this connection. By traveling in small parties or singly, the fleeing soldiers stood a less chance of being captured than in massed companies. Acting upon this fact, George C. Sherman, James Reynolds and F. Wilber Warner associated together and in company resolved to make their escape. With rations, consisting of five hard tack only, the boys threw away their guns and set out for Memphis. They traveled mostly nights, hiding in the forests and groves in the daytime. For food they supplemented their hard tack with the inside bark of beech and birch trees and a hatful of green apples. Losing or throwing away their shoes, they cut off the legs of their pants and the sleeves

of their blouses to make covering for their feet. At the end of six days, with blistered feet, limbs scratched and torn, worn and exhausted with traveling and well-nigh famished for want of food, the three brave men reached Memphis and the Union lines.

The regiment finally reached Memphis and was soon reorganized and assigned to the corps under Gen. A. J. Smith. Another expedition against Forest was undertaken. The two armies met at Tupelo, Mississippi, where an engagement ensued, in which Forest was defeated with great loss. Here Col. Wilkin was killed. In the ensuing fall the regiment was in a fight at Oxford, Mississippi. The rebels were under the command of Chambers, since member of congress. The Union army was victorious. The regiment was in the battles at Nashville, Tennessee, December 15 and 16, 1864; also at the taking of Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely, April, 1865. Discharged at Fort Snelling, August 24, 1865.

In March, 1865, Capt. Daniels was commissioned captain and C. S. by President Lincoln, and assigned to duty on Gen. Canby's staff at New Orleans; afterward commissioned by President Johnson brevet-major.

In the spring of 1863 Lieut. Stearns was detailed for duty on Col. Miller's staff at St. Paul. The next fall he went with the regiment to Jefferson City, Missouri, where he remained until the spring of 1864, most of the time acting as judge-advocate of a military commission. In April he received his commission as colonel of the 39th regiment, United States colored infantry, which had been raised in Baltimore, Maryland. The colonel soon after joined his regiment on the old battle-field of Bull Run. The regiment was in the battle of the Wilderness, on which occasion Col. Stearns says, "I really smelt my first powder." The next heavy fighting done by the regiment was at the siege of Petersburg, in the summer of 1864. Of an engagement at that place, Col. Stearns says: "We suffered terribly. Some of the colored regiments were nearly annihilated. More than one-half of my officers were wounded, and I lost 185 men, killed, wounded and missing." The regiment subsequently participated in several minor engagements between Fort Fisher and Wilmington. The regiment remained in North Carolina doing post duty till December 13, 1865, when it was mustered out and Col. Stearns returned to his home at Rochester. Just before he left the regiment his men presented him with a magnificent sword, sash and belt, which he says "I shall hand down as a priceless heirloom."

Lieut. William Brown has kindly furnished the following account of Co. H, 6th reg., Inf. Minn. Vols. The company was principally recruited in Olmsted county, by C. H. Lindsley, William K. Tattersall and Samuel Geisinger for the 6th regiment, in the summer of 1862. August 15 the company rendezvoused at Fort Snelling, where it was enrolled and organized, with William K. Tattersall, captain; Samuel Geisinger, first lieutenant, and William Brown, second lieutenant. The Sioux Indian war broke out about this time, and all the troops arriving at Fort Snelling were immediately ordered to the frontier to protect the settlers. Co. H was at once put under marching orders for Fort. Ripley to look after the Chippewas. The company remained there until November, when it was ordered to report at Fort Snelling, and on the 20th of that month, 1862, it was regularly mustered into the service of the United States. The company remained at Fort Snelling until the middle of February, 1863, from whence it was ordered to Kingston, Meeker county, Minnesota, remaining until the first of May. It was then ordered to report at Camp Pope, preparatory to the setting out of the expedition, under Gen. Sibley, against the Sioux. In August, the company returned from that march and again went into quarters at Fort Snelling. In the latter part of November Co. H was sent on detached service with two other companies to Fort Thompson, on the Missouri river, to guard supply trains sent by government to the Chippewa Indians who had been removed from their reservation in Blue Earth county. This was a hard and perilous march, particularly at that season of the year, the route being over a wild and unsettled country a distance of several hundred miles. It was impossible for the Indian agent to hire citizens to go as teamsters, and he gladly paid the soldiers for doing the double duty of driving team and guarding his train. The company sat out on their return march in the latter part of December, going by way of Sioux City, Iowa, it being deemed too hazardous to undertake again to cross the then unbroken wilderness of Dakota. The command reached the boundary of Minnesota at Fairmont on the first day of January, 1864, a day exceptionally memorable on account of the intensely cold weather then prevailing. The soldiers were quartered in tents while the mercury in the thermometer sank to 40° below zero. Arriving at Fort Snelling early in January, the company went into winter quarters, remaining until the next spring, when it was with the regiment ordered to

Helena, Arkansas. While at Helena the company lost severely by sickness. In the following winter the regiment was sent to St. Louis and performed provost duty. February, 1865, the regiment was sent to New Orleans, where it remained on provost duty until the next April, when it was ordered to Fort Blakely, near Mobile, where it participated in reducing Fort Blakely and Spanish Fort. In August, 1865, the regiment was mustered out of service at Fort Snelling. It should be added here that Lieut. Geisinger resigned in the summer of 1864, and William Brown was promoted to first lieutenant and William M. Evans was promoted from first sergeant to second lieutenant.

Among the members of Co. H, who died from sickness, were the following: Samuel T. Gibson, at Fort Snelling, December 30, 1862; Morgan L. Bulen died at St. Louis, November 20, 1864; Americus Boright, at Helena, Arkansas, July 27, 1864; Daniel H. Crego, at Helena, August 12, 1864; John Chappens died at Memphis, September 13, 1864; Daniel McArthur died at Helena, August 23, 1864; David L. Humes died at Helena, August 13, 1864; George H. Woodbury died at Helena, July 27, 1864; Eliphalet Speed died at St. Louis, December 2, 1864.

Co. K, of the 3d reg. Inf. Minn. Vol., was composed principally of Olmsted county men, and was mustered into the service of the United States November 14, 1861, with M. W. Clay, captain; James L. Hodges, first lieutenant, and Cyrenus H. Blakely, second lieutenant. Capt. Clay left the service December 1, 1862, and Lieut. Hodges was promoted to the captaincy. Lieut. Blakely was promoted to adjutant January 9, 1862, and afterward to captain of subsistence. Eben North was promoted to second lieutenant October 2, 1864, and to first lieutenant of Co. G April 10, 1865.

On the 1st of November, 1861, the regiment left Fort Snelling for Louisville, Kentucky, where the men were employed in guarding the Louisville and Nashville railroad. While the regiment was at that post the measles broke out in the camp and became epidemic. The disease proved fatal to a number of the men, mostly from exposure and relapse after they were supposed to be out of danger. George W. Russell, James L. Bundy and Samuel Northrop died with the disease in March, 1862. The same month the regiment was ordered to Nashville, Tennessee, where they did provost duty until the May following, when they were sent to Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and were associated with the 9th Mich. Inf.,



a Kentucky battery and a small cavalry force, to do duty as scouts and advance pickets, all under the command of Gen. Crittenden. On the morning of July 13, 1862, Gen. Forest surprised the 9th Mich. and the cavalry company in their beds and made them prisoners. On the first alarm the long roll of the 3d was beaten, and the regiment, speedily forming into line of battle, set out to march to the relief of the town. But they had barely reached the Nashville pike leading into Murfreesboro when they were met by a portion of Forest's forces, who occupied the strip of woods lying between the river and the town. Here a skirmishing began and was kept up until about three o'clock in the afternoon. The enemy made one determined charge on the regiment, but they were repulsed with considerable loss. In the meantime a portion of Forest's men, with Forest at their head, had, after two or three unsuccessful attacks, succeeded in capturing the Union camp, in the rear and left, under the charge of forty men. About three o'clock in the afternoon an officer approached the line of the 3d regiment under a flag of truce, and demanding a surrender, induced Col. Lester, in command of the regiment, and his adjutant, to accompany the flag into Murfreesboro. After some consultation with Gen. Crittenden and Col. Mayfield, who were already prisoners of war, and who advised Col. Lester to surrender, the latter returned to his regiment and called a council of the commanders of companies. After submitting the facts he had learned and the advice given him by Crittenden and Mayfield, Col. Lester called for a vote on the proposition to surrender or not. Two ballots were taken, and on the second ballot all voted to surrender, excepting three captains, and the regiment was thus surrendered as prisoners of war, July 13, 1862. While giving an account of this unpleasant affair, it is but simple justice to our Olmsted county troops to state that the 3d regiment had a force of only 700 effective men and one battery, while Forest's force amounted to about 2,800 men, all cavalry. Co. K had one man wounded in the arm, Charles Turnley, but none killed. The officers were all taken south, while the privates were conveyed to McMinnville, in eastern Tennessee, and paroled according to the terms of the surrender, and an officer sent back with them as far as Murfreesboro. Capt. Mills and Lieut. Hodges escaped on the route and both got back safely within the Union lines, but they had several narrow escapes from the inhabitants. The men, minus their officers, returned to Nashville, from whence they were sent to Benton barracks, Missouri, to await

exchange. While at that place the Sioux outbreak in this state occurred and the regiment was ordered to Fort Snelling August 25, 1862. The regiment arrived there about September 1, when a detachment of 250 men were sent the next day to the relief of Forest City, Meeker county, supposed to be besieged, if not already wiped out, by the Indians. On their route to Forest City the detachment found the country generally deserted, the inhabitants being gathered inside of stockades for protection against the Indians. They arrived at Forest City the third day and found the people gathered in a stockade, but there were no Indians to be seen, and none had been seen for some time. The next day the detachment returned to Cedar Mills, where they received a message from the governor to report immediately to Gen. Sibley at Fort Ridgely. On the route from Cedar Mills to Forest City the detachment found and buried the dead bodies of five white men, all scalped and mutilated and in a state of partial decomposition. They belonged to a small detachment sent out from St. Paul and Minneapolis, and were here attacked by a party of Sioux in ambush. Between Cedar Mills and Fort Ridgely they found and buried the dead body of a boy who had evidently been recently murdered by the Indians. Arrived at Fort Ridgely, the detachment, still under the command of Maj. Welch, was organized with the 6th and 7th Minn. regs. and a company of scouts, composed of half-breeds, the "Renville Rangers," and about the middle of September, 1862, the expedition started up the valley of the Minnesota river in pursuit of Little Crow, the Sioux chief; the detachment of the 3d, being the only troops that had seen service, led the advance the entire route. On September 22 the expedition arrived at Wood Lake, about two miles from the Yellow Medicine river, and the next day had an engagement with the Indians, led by Little Crow. Eighteen Indians were killed and several wounded. Five of our men were killed and a number wounded. None of Co. K were killed or wounded seriously. The cap-box, worn in front, probably saved the life of Thomas Hunter, first sergeant of the company, as a bullet struck this cap-box with sufficient force to flatten every cap in it. Glancing from the cap-box the bullet struck his left hand, making a slight wound. After the defeat of Little Crow at Wood Lake, he, with some of his followers, fled to Dakota, and Gen. Sibley began negotiations, with the hostile Indians who remained, for the release of a large number of women and children

who were prisoners in their hands, at their camp on the Minnesota river at the mouth of the Chippewa.

The detachment remained on duty in putting down the Indian outbreak until about November 1, when they arrived at Fort Snelling. In January, 1863, the 3d regiment was exchanged, after which they were again ordered south. The regiment was in active service principally at points in Tennessee, Arkansas and Mississippi, and while lying at Pine Bluff in the summer of 1864, Co. K lost ten men from sickness. In October the regiment was ordered to Duvall Bluff, where it remained during the winter of 1864-5, principally occupied in building forts, under the supervision of Thomas Hunter, now first lieutenant of Co. F. On April 1, 1864, a detachment of the 3d, under Gen. C. C. Andrews, had a fight with a superior force of rebels at Fitzhugh's Woods, Arkansas. The fight lasted several hours, the rebels finally withdrawing. Several of the Union troops were killed and wounded, but none belonging to Co. K. Early in the war the 3d Minn. passed under a cloud, but the subsequent heroic achievements of these men acquired in many brave and daring struggles with savage foes and rebel white men, very effectually lifted the cloud and the 3d made a record honorable and meritorious among the noble defenders of our common country. The regiment was mustered out of service September, 1865.

Among the Olmsted county troops belonging to the 3d regiment who died in the service were the following: Grover B. Lansing died at Pine Bluff, Arkansas, October 6, 1864; Amos Leshler, at Nashville, Tennessee, April 24, 1862; John Bump, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, July 10, 1862; Alpheus W. Bulen, Pine Bluff, Arkansas, October 16, 1864; William J. Corpe, Louisville, Kentucky, March 25, 1862; Joshua C. Hartshorn died at St. Louis, October 10, 1862; Samuel Northrop died at Louisville, Kentucky, March, 1862; George M. Russell died at Shepherdville, Kentucky, March, 1862; Martin Webster died at Pine Bluff, Arkansas, September 27, 1864; Ira Andrus, Pine Bluff, Arkansas, July 19, 1864; John J. Campbell died at the same place, October 2, 1864; Samuel Crumb, at same place, August 11, 1864; Robert Fulton, same place, October 19, 1864; Frederick Gilbert died at Duvall's Bluff, Arkansas, July 18, 1865; Christian Mark died at Little Rock, Arkansas, May 18, 1864; Benjamin K. Moren died at Duvall's Bluff, Arkansas, May 19, 1865; Charles W. Moon died at Pine Bluff, Arkansas, August 9, 1864; William F. Scott at Pine Bluff, Arkansas, August 5, 1864;

Roswell Stanton died at Memphis, December 26, 1864; John Snyder died at same place January 12, 1865; Henry Ward died at same place January 8, 1865; Charles H. Weston, drowned in the Mississippi river, August 22, 1865; Edward R. Williams died on hospital steamboat October 17, 1864.

Companies F, G, H and I, 1st batt. Minn. Vol. Inf., were recruited at Rochester and comprised a goodly number of Olmsted county men. The companies were mustered into service in the spring of 1865 for three years or during the war. The officers of Co. F were—Lafayette Hadley, captain; Thomas H. Kelly, first lieutenant; Clark Andrews, second lieutenant; Co. G—James N. Dodge, captain; Orlando J. Gardner, first lieutenant; Joseph Halleck, second lieutenant; Co. I—John N. Wallingford, captain; Jacob Z. Barncard, first lieutenant; William B. Cornman, second lieutenant.

The battalion left Fort Snelling about April 1, 1865, and in due time arrived at Washington. From Washington the battalion was sent to Burksville, Virginia, whence it soon returned to Washington and went into camp some six or seven miles from the capital. In June it was ordered to Louisville, Kentucky. Mustered out at Jeffersonville, Indiana, July 14, 1865; discharged at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, July 25, 1865.

The war was practically ended before the battalion left Fort Snelling, hence it had no actual service. O. F. Chambers, of Rochester, and Simon Hadley, Farmington, the first of Co. H, the latter of Co. F, died at Louisville in June.

The following are the names of the Olmsted county heroes, as given in the adjutant-general's report at St. Paul:

CASCADE.

Baxter, Francis W.	French, David G.	Parrish, J. D.
Bixler, Geo. P.	Freeman, Sam'l D.	Pitcher, Asahel
Boardman, Geo. A.	Hanson, Joseph	Price, James K.
Bradley, David W.	Hyler, Geo. W.	Penfield, Vernon
Burge, Mancil	Hunter, Chas. D.	Russell, Greenville
Burch, Wm. H.	Hurd, Chas. R.	Sawtell, Jas. R.
Cadwell, Alexis	Jilsen, David	Sherman, Stephen
Chafer, Almiron	Kennedy, Cyrus	Todd, Haville
Chambers, Justice B.	Knudson, Olich	Tyler, Dennis H.
Conklin, Sylvester	Lang, Geo. E.	Vroman, Barney D.
Crabb, Fluvius J.	Lange, Frederick W.	Waterman, Geo. B.
Crabb, Burroughs	Lensen, Fred. W.	Westover, Job
Cutting, Curtis L.	Maher, Michael	Wilse, Stephen E.
Diddle, Marion L.	McCarty, Warren	Wrought, Sylvester
Elders, Rienzi L.	McNeil, Philetus W.	Zirn, Louis
Fluigge, Edward	Palmer, Ambros	



## DOVER.

Allen, Josephus  
 Baney, Jas.  
 Berry, Joseph  
 Bird, Chas.  
 Bright, Americus  
 Burgess, Osmond  
 Burgess, Sam'l W.  
 Christie, Wm. G.  
 Christie, Thos. D.  
 Christie, Thos. G.  
 Churich, John  
 Clark, Josephus  
 Cline, Cullen E.  
 Doekin, Nels.  
 Doheney, Walter  
 Eagan, Jas. J.  
 Evans, John J.  
 Evans, Wm. H.

Farrell, Sam'l N.  
 Felt, Marcus B.  
 Frakes, Nathan  
 Gillaspie, Jas. M.  
 Harding, Harry A.  
 Higley, Francis  
 Higley, J. M.  
 Howe, B. B.  
 Huter, Fidell  
 Johnson, Joseph  
 Ketchum, Cornelius B.  
 Kimber, Anson V.  
 Kimber, Wm. H.  
 Lincoln, Chas. E.  
 Miller, Christopher  
 Morgan, Joseph R.  
 Morton, Henry  
 Newell, Amos

Pruiz, Frank  
 Richards, Russell  
 Shepard, Amos  
 Sheeks, Franklin  
 Small, Henry L.  
 Smith, Jas. L.  
 Smith, John W.  
 Smith, Jas. S.  
 Smith, Wm. O.  
 Sink, Wm.  
 Spillittstaser, August  
 Tollman, David  
 Thompson, Wm. R.  
 Vonamburg, Abram  
 Ward, Norman  
 Weaver, Philip  
 Weaver, John  
 Williamson, Luther G.

## ELMIRA.

Atkinson, Wm. R.  
 Blackman, Zeno  
 Blodget, Wm.  
 Bolen, Alexis H.  
 Bolen, Albert  
 Case, Zehiel L.  
 Chamberlain, Moses  
 Dunham, Abel  
 Dunham, Abner  
 Elphee, Caleb  
 Elphee, Caleb, Jr.  
 Embry, Newton  
 Erickson, Peter  
 Farrington, Benj.

Foster, Sam'l  
 Fross, Albert L.  
 Gundlock, John  
 Hayden, Horatio M.  
 Hemirs, Peter  
 Hopkins, J. I.  
 Huntley, J. D.  
 Ide, Francis B.  
 Jennings, Alfred  
 Jennings, Arthur  
 Kellen, Louis  
 Kime, Benj. F.  
 Mann, Adam

McEldarg, Jonathan  
 McEldarg, Jonathan  
 McEldarg, Daniel S.  
 Morrison, John  
 Olehouse, Nicholas B.  
 Potter, Ray S.  
 Roberts, Wm.  
 Rogne, Nathan L.  
 Scott, Newton  
 Smith, Clark W.  
 Stewart, Lucian  
 Strange, Fred. J.  
 Strachan, Joseph  
 Wards, Chandler

## EYOTA.

Atherton, Austin M.  
 Bartow, Geo. O.  
 Batzla, Christopher  
 Bland, Robert  
 Brown, Wm. H.  
 Buch, Albert C.  
 Buck, Chas. A.  
 Buck, Geo. S.  
 Burt, John F.  
 Burt, Wm. H.  
 Bosse, Frederick  
 Corrisson, Jas.  
 Chapman, Orange H.  
 Clemens, Jabez B.  
 Cline, Jacob  
 Crofoot, Warren  
 Ditter, Collander  
 Emery, Jas.  
 George, F.

Gilbert, Francis D.  
 Graham, Williams  
 Greenslee, John  
 Greenslee, Wm.  
 Hance, Daniel P.  
 Hathaway, M.  
 Herst, John K.  
 Hodges, Jas. L.  
 Hodges, Jas. L.  
 House, John  
 House, Geo. M.  
 Ingalls, Edgar J.  
 Jones, Wilson  
 Lansing, G.  
 Langworthy, Henry M.  
 Lee, Palmer  
 Matusrek, Andrew  
 Mitchell, Jos. R.  
 Olden, Edwin

Olsen, Ever  
 Osborn, Byron  
 Plank, Josephus  
 Prosser, Jas.  
 Resouette, Louis  
 Rollins, Jas.  
 Sanborn, Elias  
 Scott, Edward  
 Sheehan, Richard  
 Smalley, Henry  
 Smith, Edgar  
 Stevens, Philander  
 Targerson, Targer  
 Truman, H. O.  
 Tuttle, Geo.  
 Walters, J. F.  
 Wattles, Jesse  
 Wheeler, Mark D.

FARMINGTON.

Alker, Sam'l T.  
 Bash, John B.  
 Bulen, Alpheus W.  
 Burton, Thos. L.  
 Casey, Edward  
 Cooney, Martin  
 Cramer, Douglas  
 Cummings, Geo.  
 Davis, Hiram H.  
 Dodge, Jas. N.  
 Dodge, Henry W.  
 Ely, Phiram  
 Fisher, Albert  
 Gibson, Geo.  
 Hadley, Simon  
 Hadley, Varnum  
 Haines, David  
 Hall, Ecles

Harvey, Alphonso  
 Hall, Alfred M.  
 Hotz, Henry  
 Howe, John D.  
 Johnson, A. T.  
 Johnson, Andrew  
 Kelley, Barnard  
 Lamberton, John  
 Lane, Irvin M.  
 Lane, Eugene  
 Larey, Richard  
 Mantel, Valentine  
 Marsh, Eli  
 McArthur, Daniel  
 Miller, Jas. B.  
 Miller, Abraham  
 Moody, Robert  
 Moore, Manly O.

Olin, Jas.  
 Penhallow, Parks  
 Prior, Benj. L.  
 Pugh, Ezra L.  
 Richmond, A. J.  
 Robinson, Edward  
 Scott, Francis M.  
 Sherman, Cassius M.  
 Sidmore, Thos. J.  
 Smith, John J.  
 Striker, Geo. W.  
 Talbot, Benj.  
 Walker, Peter M.  
 Warner, F. W.  
 Warner, Harvey G.  
 Webster, Daniel  
 White, Wm. H.

HAVERHILL.

Barker, Morris C.  
 Brown, B. F. H.  
 Bulen, Frank  
 Bulen, Morgan L.  
 Clow, Malcomb  
 Conklin, Eleazer  
 Coon, Henry  
 Crockett, Geo. F.  
 Deiter, Jacob  
 Delaney, Wm.  
 Dewitt, Geo.  
 Fertile, Wm. A.  
 Fitch, John N.  
 Fofarre, Louis  
 Harrington, Inman

Hayes, Daniel  
 Horton, Thos. E. B.  
 Hueston, John  
 Hymes, Jacob H.  
 Ingalls, Herbertson  
 Johnson, Richard M.  
 Lampert, Geo.  
 Lefevre, Wm.  
 Madison, Jas.  
 Marlett, Ira A.  
 Marlett, Jas. H.  
 Morrow, Andrew J.  
 McInvel, Bennett  
 Peck, Henry  
 Peckham, M. L.

Saville, Geo.  
 Simonds, John P.  
 Smith, Martin  
 Smith, John Van  
 Smith, Hezekiah  
 Spaulsburg, Jonas  
 Spencer, Daniel  
 Starmer, Robert  
 Stone, Nathan  
 Strong, Chas.  
 Vanlorn, Lawrence  
 Weitz, Ferdinand  
 Whipple, Oliver  
 Wood, Ashley W.  
 Woodruff, Geo. E.

HIGH FORREST.

Abbott, J. D.  
 Blunt, Jas.  
 Bradley, Jas.  
 Brayn, Chas.  
 Bren, John  
 Brown, John  
 Borden, Jas. C.  
 Brooks, Edwin  
 Chafey, Wm.  
 Comstock, Ellis B.  
 Craig, Christopher  
 Crowell, Alfred  
 Crumb, Sam'l  
 Crumb, Milo  
 Cunningham, Jeff  
 Cutting, Chester L.  
 Davis, Sam'l  
 Degraff, Oscar  
 Douglass, Henry L.

Douglass, Andrew P.  
 Fah, Wm.  
 Farrell, Garrett  
 Gardner, Stephen  
 Gaskell, John W.  
 Gordy, Minor W.  
 Haath, Chas. E.  
 Hartshorn, Caleb  
 Hartshorn, Jesse  
 Hartshorn, Joshua  
 Harvey, Lewis E.  
 Hoag, Reuben  
 Honeywell, Perry  
 Horton, Lucius  
 Hemmingway, J. C.  
 Hutchins, David  
 Humason, L. A.  
 Johnson, John  
 Johnson, Chas.

Kratzer, Walter L.  
 Lake, Gideon C.  
 Lowell, John  
 Mango, August  
 Mattocks, Geo. W.  
 McBath, Robert  
 McKenney, Syly S.  
 Miller, Lorenzo J.  
 Miller, Jas. O.  
 Moses, Lewis  
 Nixon, Thomas  
 Powers, Israel P.  
 Prescott, Amasa A.  
 Rich, Eli  
 Robinson, John  
 Rolfe, Henry E.  
 Ruch, Henry  
 Ruch, Michael  
 Ruck, Edward D.

Rue, Henry N.  
Rue, Wm. H.  
Rumwater, Ira H.  
Russell, Geo. W.  
Shafer, Oliver P.  
Smith, Thos.

Stewart, Hiram A.  
Stickels, Joseph  
Tattersall, Wm. K.  
Toogood, Dwight  
Wade, Robert B.  
Walker, John W.

Western, Stephen O.  
Winters, Peter  
Wood, Menzo  
Woodruff, Geo. E.  
Wooldridge, John B.  
Young, Henry

## KALMAR.

Andrews, Norman B.  
Battles, Jas. L.  
Bently, David C.  
Besondy, Chas.  
Bitner, Robert C.  
Blair, Jas. A.  
Bretsford, Isaac W.  
Bursaw, Wm.  
Caprez, John  
Chenney, Nathan C.  
Chilson, Daniel  
Chilson, Geo.  
Chilson, Sam'l  
Chilson, Survetus  
Christman, Adam L.  
Cummings, John  
Ellison, John B.  
Gilbert, Samuel  
Gerdman, Stephen O.  
Gordon, Jonathan  
Gove, Horace H.  
Green, Martin

Grover, Isaac W.  
Grover, Alvin W.  
Grover, Isaac  
Grover, Alvin W.  
Grover, Abraham  
Hadley, Amos  
Hair, Jas. N.  
Hansen, Erick  
Harrington, Jerome  
Hart, Nelson  
Hopper, Jas.  
Johnson, Isaac  
Kent, Abraham  
King, John H.  
Kutzler, Wm. K.  
Lowry, Geo. W.  
McAllister, Archibald  
McDowell, Benj.  
Merritt, Alpheus  
Middleton, Jos. A.  
Minden, John  
Nickson, Chas. H.

Nye, Reuben  
Page, J. S.  
Payne, Chas. W.  
Pett, Robert  
Perry, Robert J.  
Randar, Jacob  
Remick, Franklin  
Rice, Benj.  
Rice, Wm.  
Ruch, Wm.  
Russell, Thomas  
Simonton, Robert  
Small, John F.  
Staats, Michael H.  
Telford, Robert  
Thompson, Stephen R.  
Tracy, Amos S.  
Van Rensalaer, H. W.  
Ward, Marquis  
Whipple, Ira  
Whitcomb, Ira S.  
Whitcomb, Francis

## MARION.

Baker, Lewis  
Barrows, Augustus  
Belervine, John  
Bonkan, Amos C.  
Bradt, Peter A.  
Brown, John J.  
Brown, M. R.  
Bucher, Gillet  
Cassidy, John  
Chase, Wm. H.  
Chase, Geo.  
Chase, W. H. H.  
Colton, David H.  
Colton, David H.  
Corpe, Edwin J.  
Crane, Wells  
Curtis, Oliver  
Deeter, Martin V.  
Dickson, Dallas  
Dureya, Garret  
Fenlin, Lewis C.  
Fitch, Peter  
Fox, John

Graling, John N.  
Hagers, Robert  
Hill, Aaron  
Howard, Henry H.  
Howard, John A.  
Howard, Silas  
Ingalls, Bela H.  
Kester, Joseph  
Kinney, Jas.  
Lee, Peter  
Lee, Palmer  
Light, Oliver P.  
Maynard, Johnson  
McAllister, Arthur  
McClaive, John F.  
McGill, John L.  
Mensink, Garret  
Myres, Wm.  
Nanerth, John  
Newell, Sidney  
O'Rourke, Henry  
Parker, John H.

Perry, Jas.  
Perry, Chas.  
Phelps, Sylvester N.  
Porter, Jas.  
Porter, Jas. R.  
Porter, Chas. E.  
Richardson, Copeland  
Rosia, L. G.  
Ruxford, Vincent  
Shelton, Leonard  
Scripture, Lawrence  
Skeels, John E.  
Skeels, Warren  
Smith, Geo. C.  
Smith, Wm.  
Speels, John E.  
Stevenson, Chas.  
Thomas, Geo. W.  
True, Lewis F.  
Truman, Clinton  
Tubbe, Frank  
West, Levi C.

NEW HAVEN.

Amos, Emanuel  
 Bateman, Fr.  
 Bateman, Ira  
 Bancroft, Orrin  
 Bassett, Cassius M.  
 Brooks, Israel  
 Classon, Isaac W.  
 Cowdin, Emery G.  
 Eastman, Sewill  
 Emerick, Rosswell L.  
 Emerick, Wm.  
 Evans, Robt. R.  
 Farnham, A.  
 Farnham, Jas. E.  
 Garland, Wm. H.  
 Gould, Chas.  
 Gould, Carlos  
 Hamlin, P.  
 Hamlin, Jacob L.  
 Hewitt, Albert K.  
 Hitchcock, Marshall

Hunter, Geo. W.  
 Kellogg, Geo.  
 Kirkpatrick, Chancey R.  
 Kirr, John  
 Knapp, Jesse.  
 Knapp, Hiram A.  
 Lane, Chas.  
 Langworthy, Benj.  
 Leshner, Amos  
 Leshner, Garret A.  
 Lourey, Melvin  
 McDill, John H.  
 McManus, Lafayette  
 Miller, Salem  
 Miller, Theodore  
 Mills, Seth  
 Oleson, Gens.  
 Page, Geo. W.  
 Palmer, John N.  
 Patten, Jas. C.

Pacard, Henry C.  
 Patten, Ozro T.  
 Peck, Jasen  
 Phillips, Ralph  
 Pool, John S.  
 Prodder, Fred'k  
 Prosser, Alonzo D.  
 Pithey, Wm.  
 Salley, Danville  
 Salley, Joel  
 Shay, Frank  
 Smith, Jas. C.  
 Smith, Wm. G.  
 Speed, Wm. J.  
 Speed, Eliphalet B.  
 Upton, Chas.  
 White, Cornelius  
 White, Libius  
 White, John  
 White, John L.

ORION.

Barnes, Sam'l P.  
 Barnes, Sam'l P.  
 Brown, Henry C.  
 Case, Herman G.  
 Case, Norman E.  
 Denny, Baruch  
 Ecker, Christopher  
 Edwards, Geo. W.  
 Edwards, Chas. W.  
 English, Joseph  
 Ersley, Cyrus

Farrington, Benj.  
 Farrington, John W.  
 Farrell, Geo. G.  
 Farnham, Henry  
 Frazier, Nelson C.  
 Harris, Thos.  
 Hazleton, Aden K.  
 Hill, Lafayette  
 Lovelace, Wm. Delay  
 McAllister, Arthur  
 Niles, Horace S.

North, Eben  
 Rinderwicht, Henry  
 Rucker, Thadeus  
 Russell, Fred'k  
 Russell, Stephen  
 Savage, David  
 Schermerhorn, Putnam  
 Simmons, Andrew  
 Sinclair, Amasa  
 Swain, Jas. R.  
 Updegraff, John

ORONOCO.

Allen, D. W.  
 Atkinson, Geo.  
 Buley, Manning  
 Campbell, Geo.  
 Carly, Wm.  
 Chase, Andrew J. M.  
 Clark, John B.  
 Clark, Alfred  
 Clay, Mark W.  
 Craig, Alexander  
 Cregg, A.  
 Cutshall, Jacob E.  
 Dean, Warren H.  
 Durand, Wm.  
 Ellet, Perry  
 Ellithorp, A.  
 Emery, C. C.  
 Everson, Sam. S.  
 Ferguson, Anson A.  
 Fetterman, Daniel

Frank, John A.  
 Furman, Jediah  
 Furman, Sam.  
 Hanson, Leander J.  
 Harman, Leander G.  
 Herrick, Lewis L.  
 Hewitt, Ira B.  
 Hubbs, Clarkes L.  
 Johnson Alex. M.  
 Keelar, Geo. S.  
 Keelar, Ozias D.  
 Kellogg, Augustus  
 Kirkham, J. Philo  
 Kirkham, James P.  
 Kirkham, Joshua M.  
 Lawyer, Alfred G.  
 Moulton, H.  
 Oakins, John  
 Owens, Hiram C.  
 Pierce, Wm. M.

Prettyman, Geo. W.  
 Robson, Francis  
 Robinson, Wm. S.  
 Rutledge, Aaron  
 Sheldon, Fletcher A.  
 Stebbins, Wm. A.  
 Stebbins, W. A.  
 Stevens, W. A.  
 Stocking, B. F.  
 Stoddard, E. Q.  
 Stoddard, J. O.  
 Terry, Geo.  
 Thompson, Peter M.  
 Turnley, Chas. H.  
 Waldron, Francis M.  
 Waldron, Francis W.  
 Webster, Henry W.  
 Webster, Henry  
 Wilcox, Hiram B.  
 Zirn, Louis



## PLEASANT GROVE.

Adamson, Wesley  
 Andrus, Freman  
 Andrus, Isaac  
 Avery, Silas  
 Bagley, Harvey  
 Bagley, Henry  
 Bagley, Murray  
 Balcomb, J. O.  
 Barnard, David  
 Barrows, Eli B.  
 Bingham, John G.  
 Black, Alex.  
 Bolewine, Henry  
 Britendoll, Taylor  
 Burgan, Wm. P.  
 Burlingame, Louis J.  
 Burlingame, John L.  
 Clark, Lemuel O.  
 Clark, Ziba B.  
 Clark, Sam. M.  
 Cole, Silas  
 Collins, Wm. H.  
 Crego, D. H.  
 Crink, John  
 Dieter, Martin  
 Duncan, Mathew  
 Duncan, Sam.  
 Eaton, J. S.  
 Evans, John D.

Everst, H. N.  
 Everts, Edward  
 Gasper, Jacob C.  
 Gasper, Jacob  
 Gasper, Reuben  
 Gear, Elisha F.  
 Gleason, Geo. W.  
 Griffin, Michael  
 Hartney, Simon  
 Higby, Theron S.  
 Hueston, Wm.  
 Humes, Jas. J.  
 Humes, Wm. B.  
 Hutting, John  
 Jackson, Jas.  
 Kennedy, A.  
 Kennedy, Augustine  
 Lombard, Newton  
 Maddox, Richard  
 Mathews, Chas. M.  
 McNelly, Patrick  
 Mill, Wm. H.  
 Mills, Chas. P.  
 Newton, M. J.  
 North, Eben  
 Nutting, John W.  
 Page, Harmon A.  
 Parker, H. E.  
 Parks, Moses P.

Parks, John W.  
 Pixley, Ariel  
 Pixley, Geo. W.  
 Ratchiff, Richard R.  
 Reeves, John V.  
 Reeves, J. P.  
 Reeves, John D.  
 Racker, Albert H.  
 Russell, Chas. W.  
 Sandborn, G. F.  
 Sheldon, Hudson B.  
 Smith, Daniel  
 Steel, Wm.  
 Stowell, Sylvester E.  
 Tait, Joseph  
 Tait, Andrew  
 Tait, Joseph  
 Thomas, W. G. W.  
 Thomas, John  
 Todd, Edward  
 Towle, John M.  
 Wagner, Wm.  
 Wagner, Chas. C.  
 Wagoner, Chas. F.  
 Webster, Martin  
 Webster, Martin  
 West, Franklin A.  
 West, Frank A.  
 Wood, Hiram M.

## QUINCY.

Allen, David  
 Ames, Dolphus  
 Austin, Geo.  
 Bauman, John B.  
 Barnes, Jonathan  
 Bartren, Jas.  
 Bell, Hiram  
 Bennett, J. G.  
 Blodget, Milo  
 Black, Reuben  
 Bone, Gilbert H.  
 Burgess, G. W.  
 Burgess, G. N.  
 Calkin, John T.  
 Churchill, Eber  
 Clark, Wm. S.  
 Clark, P. F.  
 Cooper, Jas.  
 Cooper, John B.  
 Crittenden, Newell  
 Curtis, Benj. F.  
 Daniels, Arthur K.  
 Dietrich, Chas.  
 Dietrich, Paul  
 Evans, J. H.  
 Faltes, Chas.  
 Flavel, Jabez W.  
 Foster, Chas. J.  
 Frich, Abram  
 Gray, Geo.

Grinsted, Joseph H.  
 Gurkee, Edwin  
 Hamilton, Geo. H.  
 Hehsel, Peter H.  
 Hemmelberg, W.  
 Holland, Alonzo  
 Hordd, Arnold  
 Irvan, John J.  
 Jay, E. A.  
 Kason, Wm. E.  
 Keen, Geo. H.  
 Kennedy, Thos. E.  
 Kenzkeimer, Chas.  
 Kerper, Nicholas  
 Ketchum, Arthur J.  
 King, Jas. M.  
 Kirgan, Robin L.  
 Kisley, Geo.  
 Kitchell, P. Albert  
 Kixter, H. K.  
 Lambert, Henry  
 Larch, Martin  
 Lavan, Geo. W.  
 Laws, Sam.  
 Leroy, Wood  
 Libby, Wm. Z.  
 Lincoln, C. E.  
 Lincoln, Joseph  
 Mills, Thos.  
 North, M. A.

Raffardy, John  
 Rolf, Chas. H.  
 Ross, John N.  
 Schaffer, Jacob  
 Sigdon, Jas. T.  
 Simoncon, Seaver  
 Small, John  
 Smith, Wm.  
 Smith, Levi  
 Stallcop, Levi  
 Stallcop, Levi  
 Stansbury, Chas. H.  
 Stevenson, John  
 Stevenson, John B.  
 Stevens, Geo. W.  
 Tenny, Geo. W.  
 Tenny, Sam. S.  
 Thomas, Lewis  
 Thompson, Benj.  
 Truesdall, A. J.  
 Truesdell, Chas. B.  
 Utter, Chas. S.  
 Weagant, Wm. H.  
 Whitney, C. H.  
 Wilson, Wm.  
 Williams, Julius E.  
 Wood, Jas. M.  
 Woodruff, Francis M.  
 Wright, John C.

## ROCHESTER.

- Adams, Wm. L.  
 Arine, Henry  
 Austin, Wm. H.  
 Ayers, Chas. G.  
 Bailey, Robt. E.  
 Baker, Geo. A.  
 Bamber, Archie  
 Barncard, Jacob  
 Barncard, Geo. H.  
 Barthell, D.  
 Bash, David  
 Baxter, Wm. S.  
 Beatty, Daniel  
 Bennett, Chas. A.  
 Betts, Peter B.  
 Black, W.  
 Blakely, Cyrene H.  
 Bliss, Timothy H.  
 Boyd, John F.  
 Boyd, Wm. O.  
 Branwan, John  
 Brittain, Thos.  
 Brooks, Orrin B.  
 Brooks, Wm.  
 Brooks, Ariel H.  
 Brown, W.  
 Brown, Geo.  
 Brown, Thos. R.  
 Bullard, Sam'l  
 Buskins, Jas. H.  
 Carter, Amos C.  
 Carey, Michael  
 Card, Levi A.  
 Chase, Albert S.  
 Chase, Kesley A.  
 Chambers, Hamlin  
 Chambers, O. F.  
 Chrisman, Lawrence  
 Clark, Henry  
 Clemons, Henry M.  
 Clow, John E.  
 Collins, Wm. E.  
 Cook, Fayette  
 Cooley, Henry D.  
 Cooper, E. D.  
 Coppinger, Thos.  
 Cowles, Galmon Z.  
 Cowles, Torris Z.  
 Cross, E. W.  
 Cronkhite, Edgar  
 Cromdall, Marion  
 Cummings, Geo. W.  
 Daniels, Milton J.  
 Daniels, Don A.  
 Dee, Wm.  
 Devery, Stephen  
 Doramus, John  
 Douglas, Alden G.  
 Duncan, John  
 Duncason, Leander J.  
 Durand, Chas.  
 Durland, John  
 Drury, Ossian S.  
 Eaton, Joseph S.  
 Eaton, Horace G.  
 Edwards, Huntington  
 Elliot, Jas.  
 Elliot, Archibald  
 Enoch, Absalom M.  
 Fabrick, Lewis N.  
 Falls, Jas.  
 Faley, Michael  
 Finch, David G.  
 Finch, Solomon B.  
 Fisher, Geo. C.  
 Fogarty, Patrick  
 Fountain, Fred.  
 Foss, Anton  
 Frost, John  
 Gaffer, Wm.  
 Gates, Thomas  
 Geissinger, S.  
 Gibson, Sam'l T.  
 Gifford, Andrew J.  
 Godewoth, Otto  
 Grant, Santa  
 Guttormson, Gull  
 Hadley, Lafayette  
 Haines, Hiram  
 Hall, N. B.  
 Hall, Leslie  
 Hall, Addison  
 Halmson, Ole  
 Hamilton, Bernard  
 Hart, Albert  
 Harvey, A. H.  
 Hawkins, J. F. M.  
 Hawkins, Geo. W.  
 Hewitt, Chas.  
 Heller, Francis J.  
 Hightchen, Isaac C.  
 Hinnman, Justice R.  
 Hoag, Richard A.  
 Horton, Sam'l  
 Hotchkiss, Fred. N.  
 Hovey, Alonzo  
 Howe, Wm. L.  
 Howland, A. J.  
 Hoyt, Albert  
 Hubbard, Isaac  
 Huggins, John P.  
 Hunter, Thos.  
 Hutchins, Geo.  
 Hutchins, Marion  
 Hyatt, Amos  
 Ireland, Chas. F.  
 Ireland, Mortimer H.  
 Irish, Galusha  
 Ives, Stephen  
 Iveerson, L.  
 Jacobs, Henry  
 Jefferson, Thos.  
 Jenkins, Chas. E.  
 Johnson, Jas. A.  
 Johnson, Franklin  
 Johnsing, Elling  
 Jones, Orrion W.  
 Jones, Henry R.  
 Jones, Owyn W.  
 Jones, Wm. M.  
 Kelly, Lewis H.  
 Kern, John  
 Kidd, Lawrence  
 Kingston, Wm. D.  
 Lafesh, Henry  
 Lange, Chas. J.  
 Loder, John W.  
 Lovejoy, Geo. W.  
 Loy, John  
 Loy, Owen  
 Luce, Wm.  
 Luce, David  
 Ludwig, D. T.  
 Lyons, Edw'd M.  
 Maginnis, C. Ambrose  
 Malmson, Mathew  
 Markham, Wm.  
 Markham, Daniel  
 McCumber, R. B.  
 McGrey, Alex.  
 McGowan, Wm.  
 McGollg, Geo.  
 McKay, Hugh  
 McMillan, Alex.  
 McMillen, A. J.  
 McMinds, Wm. W.  
 Metcalf, Sam'l S.  
 Meyette, Joseph C.  
 Meyers, Chas.  
 Miller, Lewis H.  
 Miller, Sam'l A.  
 Minson, Nelson D.  
 Morey, Chauncey  
 Mosher, Walker  
 Mott, Sam'l  
 Nicholas, Horace E.  
 Olds, Thos. B.  
 Olson, Frank  
 Olson, Martin  
 Orcutt, Edw'd H.  
 Orcutt, Chas. L.  
 Parmerlee, W. H.  
 Patterson, John  
 Peck, Henry  
 Peckham, Martin L.  
 Pennell, Henry  
 Perry, Geo.

Phipps, Francis E.  
 Pike, Delos  
 Pollock, Robert  
 Rearden, Timothy W.  
 Reuhardts, Wm. K.  
 Reynolds, Jas. G.  
 Reynolds, Jas.  
 Reynolds, H. C.  
 Rymal, John J.  
 Rheigleg, Geo. W. L.  
 Richardson, John  
 Rice, Albert M.  
 Sage, H. S.  
 Sayer, Horace B.  
 Sayer, Henry  
 Scharf, John  
 Schwab, Cyrus  
 Seamans, L. A.  
 Seamans, Randolph  
 Shaw, Alex.  
 Shay, Martin  
 Sherman, G. W.  
 Sherman, Albert C.  
 Sherman, Geo. C.  
 Shepley, Richard

Sloan, Elijah  
 Smith, Geo. W.  
 Smith, Gilbert  
 Smith, Robert J.  
 Smith, Adam  
 Smith, Martin L.  
 Spring, Thomas  
 Steel, Mathew  
 Stearns, Ozro P.  
 Stevens, Wm. A.  
 Stevenson, John  
 Stevens, August  
 Stocking, Frank  
 Story, Zachus  
 Swartz, Wm.  
 Sylvester, Bedal  
 Taylor, Sam'l  
 Terrill, I. M.  
 Terrel, Jack  
 Thayer, Solon C.  
 Thoreson, Jas.  
 Thurber, Chas. E.  
 Turgeson, Andrew  
 Van Dooser, J. F.

Vaught, Henry H.  
 Wagoner, Joseph H.  
 Wagoner, Edward  
 Walter, John  
 Walch, John  
 Walden, Ira G.  
 Wallingford, John N.  
 Wentworth, Geo.  
 Westman, John  
 Whitcomb, Valentine O.  
 Whips, Jas.  
 Williams, John  
 Williams, Wm.  
 Williams, Joseph H.  
 Williams, Talesian  
 Williamson, Robt.  
 Willet, C. Preston  
 Wilson, Daniel M.  
 Wolfe, Geo.  
 Wolfe, Adam  
 Worden, Henry D.  
 Wright, Thos. C.  
 Wrangham, Wm. B.  
 Wynkoop, Wm.

## ROCK DELL.

Barnes, Joel S.  
 Christie, Alex.  
 Christopherson, Kittle  
 Cole, Geo.  
 Conat, Thos. H.  
 Curtis, Sam.

Elleson, Syvert  
 Hall, Wm. M.  
 Humason, Chas. J.  
 Madden, John F.  
 McCue, Wm. H.

Pixley, Melville G.  
 Roske, Wm.  
 Russell, Jas. H.  
 Steyba, John A.  
 Watson, Wm. H.

## SALEM.

Adams, Edwin H.  
 Anderson, Anderson  
 Anduton, Wm. W.  
 Ankers, Wm. H.  
 Annis, Geo.  
 Barney, Theodore  
 Barnhart, Benj.  
 Bascom, Orwin M.  
 Bisky, Martin  
 Brooks, Geo. T.  
 Brooks, H. W.  
 Buschtt, Henreich  
 Cornell, Henry D.  
 Cronin, John  
 Cromwell, Byron  
 Delancy, Albert  
 Dodge, John H.  
 Dooley, M. H.  
 Drake, Geo.  
 Drake, Geo.  
 Dresbach, A. L.  
 Ellison, Joseph  
 Emmerson, John

Fogarty, Wm.  
 Garman, David C.  
 Gould, Elmer F.  
 Green, Sayles R.  
 Green, Clark L.  
 Gunderson, Peter  
 Holt, Albert  
 Hurd, Herbert G.  
 Hurd, Albert B.  
 Hurd, Chas. E.  
 Jago, Patrick  
 Johnson, Christian  
 Kinney, Jas. H.  
 Knapp, Harrison  
 Langley, D. A.  
 March, Joseph  
 March, Joseph W.  
 Marquette, Geo.  
 McCoy, Luther  
 McCoy, Andrew C.  
 McMaster, David  
 McDonald, A.  
 Mulligan, Jas.

Niles, Henry  
 Northrup, Sam.  
 Northrup, Walter D.  
 Olden, Esmond  
 Pehle, Anton  
 Perry, Dudley  
 Peterson, Andrew  
 Price, Rufus H.  
 Reiter, Adolph  
 Ricker, Chas. S.  
 Smith, Henry  
 Smith, Henry R.  
 Solem, H. O.  
 Spaulding, Aug. W.  
 Spooner, John W.  
 Steel, Jas.  
 Stoddard, Edwin D.  
 Stoleson, Barnt.  
 Tomlinson, Sam.  
 Trumble, Israel  
 Wakefield, H. B.  
 Wait, Alfred

## VIOLA.

Allen, Jas. P.	Farrier, Granville	Powers, Jas.
Battles, John	Golding, Wm. E.	Ray, Francis
Bear, M. R.	Harkins, Abram	Rutledge, John
Bidwall, V. A.	Henry, Edgar	Shaul, Lemuel
Booth, John	Ketchum, G. W.	Shenton, H. W.
Brannan, Jas.	Kitchell, Prince A.	Stanard, Hiram R.
Bryan, Thos.	Kitchel, E. M.	Stulenberger, Elias
Bunch, Quinton	Leeson, Robt.	Stulenberger, David
Calvert, R. A.	Mack, Geo.	Swan, Wm.
Calvert, S. D.	Morse, W. F.	Wagon, Jacob
Campbell, Wesley	Oaks, Elihu J.	Watson, Chas.
Cunningham, Jeff.	Palmer, Geo.	Webster, Alden
Cutter, Marshall	Pendigrass, J. W.	Williams, David
Doty, A. V.	Potter, Theo. E.	

## CHAPTER VI.

## MURDER OF WARREN YOUMANS AND OTHERS.

ON October 10, 1865, a cruel and atrocious murder was committed in the town of Quincy, about eighteen miles northeast of the city of Rochester, Patrick Callahan being the murderer and Warren Youmans the victim.

The two men were neighbors, and, as was understood at the time, the crime grew out of some difficulty between them in reference to annoyance from cattle. On the day in question Callahan was mowing in a ravine not far away, when Youmans, who had been driving Callahan's cattle out of his field, came to him and commenced complaining about being annoyed by Callahan's cattle. The two men were now alone, but it is supposed that high words ensued, when Callahan started toward his antagonist with the uplifted scythe. Seeing his danger, Youmans attempted to escape by flight; but Callahan was too quick for him, and hooking the scythe around Youmans' legs, between the knees and hips, cut both legs to the bone, inflicting horrible gashes from ten to twelve inches in length. The poor man fell to the ground on the spot, and from all appearance died almost instantly.

Mr. Youmans not coming home at the time expected, search was made for him, and his dead body was found in a few hours in the ravine where he had met his cruel death.

An inquest was held by S. B. Clark, of Rochester, as coroner,



upon the dead body of Youmans, and the verdict of the jury was substantially in accordance with the facts as above narrated.

In the meantime Callahan had fled the country, and soon afterward the governor offered a reward of \$500 for his apprehension and delivery to the sheriff of Olmsted county. Nothing, however, was heard of Callahan by the Olmsted county authorities until May, 1872, nearly seven years after the murder was committed. Callahan was described in the governor's offer of a reward as a "laborer, thirty-five years old, five feet four or five inches high; eyes light blue or gray; sandy beard and complexion; brown hair, slightly mixed with gray; weight one hundred and twenty-five to one hundred and thirty pounds; slightly pock marked; naturally round featured, but cheeks a little sunken; speaks quick, with Irish brogue."

It seems that Callahan made his way to Chicago, and there, under an assumed name, hired out as a laborer. Forming an acquaintance with a fellow-laborer, the two became on quite intimate terms. In the course of their friendly intimacy, Callahan confided the story of his great crime to his new-found friend, and confessing himself a refugee from justice. Subsequently, however, it transpired that the two men fell out and became enemies, whereupon Callahan's confidant gave him away, by informing a Chicago detective by the name of Simonds, of his (Callahan's) criminality. Simonds, not aware that a reward had been offered for Callahan's arrest, came to Winona to see a brother of the murdered man, thinking that the brother would be sufficiently interested in the matter to pay a reasonable consideration for the capture and punishment of the alleged murderer. Mr. Youmans, brother of the murdered man, declining to come to the detective's terms, he applied to the sheriff of Winona county. From the sheriff Simonds learned that the murder was committed in Olmsted county instead of Winona. The sheriff and Simonds then concluded to confer with the sheriff of Olmsted county by telegraph, and the following dispatches passed between them :

SHERIFF, ROCHESTER :

WINONA, May 18, 1872.

Do you want Callahan, the murderer of Warren Youmans some time ago?  
Reply at once. See county attorney.

J. F. MARTIN, Sheriff.

J. F. MARTIN, WINONA :

ROCHESTER, May 18, 1872.

You will keep the said Callahan, murderer of Youmans, and I will be after him Monday, the 20th.

J. A. ELLISON, Sheriff.

No reply to this being received, sheriff Ellison sends another dispatch, as follows :

J. F. MARTIN, SHERIFF, WINONA :

ROCHESTER, May 20, 1872.

Have you got the man? If so, can you bring him? Answer.

J. A. ELLISON.

J. A. ELLISON, SHERIFF, ROCHESTER :

WINONA, May 20, 1872.

He is in Chicago. I will bring him by your paying expenses, or you may send for him. Answer.

It appears that this last dispatch was signed, "T. F. Simonds, detective."

The next dispatch was as follows :

J. F. MARTIN, SHERIFF, WINONA :

ROCHESTER, May 20, 1872.

What will be the expense to bring the man here? Answer.

J. A. ELLISON, Sheriff.

Sheriff Martin replied as follows, under the same date :

Will deliver him to you at Rochester for \$125, if no requisition be required ; or you may send for him yourself to Chicago. Answer at once.

J. F. MARTIN, Sheriff.

The same day sheriff Ellison answered as follows :

SHERIFF MARTIN, WINONA :

If you will bring the said Callahan forthwith your money is ready.

J. A. ELLISON, Sheriff.

In due time Patrick Callahan was brought to Rochester and delivered into the custody of sheriff Ellison. On the 25th of April, 1866, the grand jury of Olmsted county had indicted Callahan for murder in the first degree, and May 28, 1872, Judge Waterman issued a bench warrant for his arrest. The prisoner was arraigned in the district court at a special term June 26, 1872. County attorney Start conducted the prosecution, and John Van Arman, Esq., of Chicago, and Hon. Thomas Wilson, of Winona, appeared for the defendant. On being required to plead, defendant plead not guilty to the indictment, but plead guilty to murder in the second degree. In view of the fact that one of the most important witnesses on the part of the state had died and another had left the country, the county attorney advised to accept the plea, and the court convicted the defendant accordingly and sentenced him to the state prison for four years.

## THE MURDER OF FREDERICK ABLEITNER.

Among all civilized peoples the willful, malicious, wrongful taking of human life is regarded as the highest crime known to the law. The act never fails to excite the horror and execration of the community in which it is committed, and invokes the just and speedy trial, condemnation and punishment of the murderer. But in murder, as well as in other offenses against society and the law, there are degrees of guilt and criminality. In some cases there are extenuating circumstances, as great provocation, sudden impulse of anger, or other conditions which tend to modify, to a greater or lesser extent, the real guilt of the criminal, and are—and justly, too—pleaded and allowed in mitigation of punishment. The case, however, which we are about to relate may well be classed among the most brutal, cold-blooded and fiendish in the annals of crime. Three strong, healthy and vigorous young men get together and coolly, deliberately, and with a *sang-froid* strikingly shocking, plan, plot and proceed to murder a harmless and unsuspecting old man in his humble prairie home. The old man had never done his murderers any wrong; they had no motive to call him from his bed in the darkness of the night to assault and murder him, save that of robbing him of property justly and solely his own. •

At the time our narrative commences, there were residing at or about the little city of St. Charles, in Winona county, three men, named John Whitman, Charles Edwards and George W. Staley. Whitman was a married man, about thirty-five years of age, and with his family, resided at St. Charles. Edwards and Staley were young men and unmarried. They were transient characters and had come into that neighborhood some time in the latter part of the summer of 1867, and engaged to work as harvest hands.

About two miles west of St. Charles, in the town of Dover, Olmsted county, was the farm residence of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Ableitner, an old German couple. The country was then new and the old couple's home, though comfortable, was humble and unpretending, but, unfortunately for them, it was thought that they had a considerable sum of money in the house, recently sent to them from their native country. John Whitman, it seems, had been at Mr. Ableitner's house, and while there he claims to have seen the old gentleman exhibit quite a sum of money as he was paying off some harvest hands. He informed Edwards that the old man had \$2,000 in gold put away in a chest. The two men were not very long in making up their minds to rob

the old German, and, taking Staley into the conspiracy, the three agreed upon the night of October 29, 1867, to put their wicked plan into execution. On the night of the murder the three men drank heavily at a saloon in St. Charles, and then, with brain crazed with whisky, and with robbery and murder in their hearts, they started for the scene of their horrible crime. It would appear that they had not fully determined upon killing their unsuspecting victim when they left St. Charles, but in talking the matter over, Edwards suggested that "dead men tell no tales," an adage which was readily agreed to by the other two men. Accordingly on the way they cut each man a club, Staley having with him also a loaded revolver. It was agreed that Edwards should call the old man to the door and knock him down, while Staley should watch him and Whitman assist Edwards in robbing the house. Arriving at the house Edwards knocked at the door, and Ableitner inquired: "Who was there and what was wanted." Edwards replied that a couple of men had lost their way and wanted to inquire the road to Chatfield. Upon this the old man came to the door, when Edwards knocked him down with his club. The victim got on to his hands and knees trying to rise, when Staley shot him with his pistol. Two or three more shots were fired at the old man. Edwards afterward lighted a paper, by which they looked in and saw the wounded man walking about the house, holding his hand to his side and groaning piteously. The above is, in substance, the narration of the circumstances connected with the cold-blooded and brutal transaction as minutely detailed by Staley in his confession, and is probably true in the main.

Mr. Ableitner survived his terrible injuries a few hours, but before he died he stated that there was only about fifteen dollars in money in the house at the time he was attacked.

Of course the entire community was deeply stirred over the brutal deed, and measures were speedily taken to ferret out the guilty ones and bring them to justice. Edwards, soon after the murder, disappeared and was never seen afterward by any one having knowledge of the murder. Whitman and Staley, however, remained in the neighborhood, and suspicion resting upon Staley as having been concerned in the murder, he was arrested upon a warrant issued by Justice Stevenson, of Dover. In the meantime Whitman pretended to be very active and officious in searching out the murderers, and it is a singular fact that while Staley was in



custody during his examination, he was placed in charge of Whitman, the people little thinking that the latter was one of the murderous confederates. Justice Stevenson, deeming the evidence insufficient to warrant him in holding Staley for trial, discharged him.

Whitman and Staley remained in and about St. Charles for a number of days, when the citizens held an indignation meeting and resolved to put the case into the hands of Chicago detectives. Soon after this, Whitman, with his family, and also Staley, left the country. Mr. D. J. Page, a Chicago detective, appeared at St. Charles about this time and set himself to work to hunt up and arrest the murderers of Ableitner. Gathering what information he could, Page started east, as he believed, on the trail of the guilty and absconding Whitman. He traced the fugitive through Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio and Pennsylvania to Runnelsville, New York, where he found Whitman's family, but no Whitman. He had been there but his then whereabouts was not known. Page was at a loss to know just which way to take, but finally concluded to start in a westerly direction. Upon arriving at Rochester, New York, he was fortunate enough to find a clue that finally led to the capture of his man. He there learned that Whitman was somewhere in the Michigan pineries, working as a teamster. With this slight clue, the wily and persistent Page pushed on to Michigan, and at a little town called Cedar Springs, in the pine forests of that state, he found and arrested Whitman, December 18, 1867. The detective brought his prisoner to Rochester and lodged him in jail. We will here finish our narrative concerning John Whitman and then take up again the case of Staley.

At the June term of the district court, 1868, Charles Edwards, John Whitman and George W. Staley were indicted by the grand jury for the willful murder of Frederick Ableitner. On October 6, following, the court being then in session, John Whitman plead guilty of manslaughter in the third degree, and on the 16th he was sentenced by Judge Barber to confinement in the state prison for the term of eight years. In the meantime Whitman had manifested a good degree of remorse and penitence over his awful crime. He had confessed soon after his arrest that he was one of the men who was present at the murder, but charged the killing upon Edwards and Staley. Prison life, with a guilty conscience, however, did not seem to agree with him. His health began utterly

to fail him, and on March 24, 1871, Gov. Austin granted him a full pardon.

About two weeks after landing Whitman at Rochester, detective Page, with another Chicago detective, named James Webb, started to look up Staley. Mr. Page had obtained a slight clue to Staley's whereabouts by a letter which he saw at St. Charles, written by a Mr. Poole, of Portage City, Wisconsin. With what information they could gather, meager though it was, the officers pursued their way to Sparta, Wisconsin, from whence they proceeded to Black River Falls, thirty or forty miles further on. From that place the officers, with two or three other men in company, proceeded to Neilsville, some twenty to thirty-five miles distant, from whence they went to a lumbering camp, called "Allen's Camp," an obscure place in the Wisconsin pineries, in the northeast corner of Clark county. The party arranged to arrive at the camp in the night, as they thought that the arrest of Staley could be effected more easily and safely when all the lumbermen would be in bed. Accordingly, they reached the camp at two or three o'clock on the morning of December 26. The sleeping bunks or berths in the camp were arranged similiar to those on a steamboat, and Page, with Staley's picture about him, passed through between the berths, and told the men to look up and show their faces. Most of them uncovered their heads and the question was asked, "What is wanted?" One man, however, held the blankets down over his head, but the officer pulled the covering off and immediately recognized Staley. Mr. Page said to him: "George, get up, I want you." The guilty murderer and trembling fugitive immediately got up, dressed himself, and under the escort of the officers arrived at Rochester about December 30, when he joined his fellow murderer, Whitman, in the common jail of Olmsted county.

June 15, 1868, Staley was arraigned in the district court—Hon. L. Barber presiding—on a charge of murder in the first degree. County-attorney Start and F. R. E. Cornell, attorney-general, conducted the prosecution. Hon. R. A. Jones, of Rochester, and Hon. Benjamin Franklin, of Winona, appeared for the defense. Two full days were spent in getting a jury to try the case. Over one hundred men had been summoned before the requisite number (twelve) were selected. The jurors' names were as follows: W. P. Clough, John Morrison, A. D. Robinson, Aaron Richardson, R. R. Hotchkiss, J. Briggs, Barney Hacket, A. T. Hyde, D. A. Sullivan, James Ireland,

Robert McClosky and James Moody. Aaron Richardson was chosen foreman.

About a dozen witnesses were sworn on the part of the state, and about half that number for the defense. The trial, which lasted nine days, was very interesting and impressive, and the proceedings were witnessed with deep and unabated interest by a large number of spectators each day. The state, as well as the defendant, was represented by skilled, able and energetic attorneys; the struggle of legal acumen and adroitness in the examination of witnesses was frequent, sharp and incisive, while the arguments before the jury were marked for their ability, candor and soundness.

The case was given to the jury on the 26th, between five and six o'clock in the evening. The jury retired to their room to consult together touching their verdict, and after being out about six hours they returned to the courtroom, and, through their foreman, announced to the court that they had agreed upon a verdict, which was, "Guilty, as charged in the indictment."

With all the circumstances and associations the scene was deeply sad and impressive, and was graphically described in the "Rochester Post," in its account of the trial, as follows:

"During the trial the appearance of Staley underwent no great change. He is twenty-two years old, of medium height, well built, and in expression candid, sincere, and rather prepossessing. From long confinement in the cell his hands and face have faded to a delicate white. His dress is scrupulously neat, his hair neatly combed, and hangs in graceful curls, giving him more the appearance of a drygoods clerk than of a prisoner on trial for his life. As the dread ordeal drew to a close, as the terrible recollection of that dreadful night of last October was renewed, as the fearful and ominous words, at the lumber camp, at the dead hour of night, "Get up, George, I want you," were reiterated, and as the web of condemning evidence continued to be woven around him, his earnestness of expression indicated a deepening interest in the results of the proceedings. But at no time did his self-control or steadiness of nerve forsake him. Confronted, face to face, at the lonely hour of midnight, with the twelve men, who, under God, held his fate in their hands; all nature hushed in repose, and the pale lamp casting a weird and ghostly glare over all objects in the now almost deserted courtroom, young Staley listened to the awful word "guilty" coolly, composedly, and without any apparent excite-

ment or emotion. All present, including the court, attorneys and officers, were deeply moved with the sadly interesting and solemn scenes of that midnight hour."

The condemned man was remanded to the jail, and the next day his counsel moved the court for a new trial and suspension of sentence. The motion was heard by the court on the first Monday of September, 1868, and denied. County-attorney Start then moved for judgment of sentence. The prisoner arose to his feet, and the court asked him if he had anything to say why the sentence of the law should not be pronounced against him. Staley replied that he had "nothing to say." The court then passed sentence as follows: "It is adjudged by the court, now here, that you, George W. Staley, as a punishment for the offense of which you have been convicted, be conveyed hence to the common jail, in the county of Olmsted and State of Minnesota; that you be kept in said jail in solitary confinement until the fifth day of March, 1869, and that on said fifth day of March you be hung by the neck until you are dead."

On the 12th day of September an appeal was taken to the supreme court. The appeal was argued before that court at its session in January following. The judgment of the court below was affirmed. A few days before the time fixed for Staley's execution, a petition to Gov. Marshal, asking for a commutation of the prisoner's sentence to confinement in the state prison for life, was drawn up and circulated for signatures by R. A. Jones, Esq. The petition was very generally signed by the jurors and leading citizens of Rochester and other near localities, and four days before the fatal "fifth day of March" the petition was presented to the governor by Mr. Jones. The governor granted the prayer of the petitioners, and Staley, instead of going to the gallows, was conveyed to the state prison.

Staley's uniform good behavior and cheerful compliance with prison rules and regulations, together with his youthfulness and agreeable manners, won for him sympathy, kindly feeling and respect, and after serving a prison life of six and one-half years, he was granted a full pardon by Gov. Davis, and has since, it is believed, led an innocent and honorable life.

In January, 1868, the legislature passed a bill appropriating \$500 to be expended in the capture of Edwards. Detective Page stated that he had heard from Edwards; that he was in Texas, and he believed he could find him. The money, or a portion of it, was



given to Page and he made the trip to Texas in pursuit of the fugitive, but without avail. Edwards was said to have been a Texas ranger; that he fought in the rebel army during the rebellion, and that the old German, Ableitner, was not the first man which he had murdered. That he was, and still is, if not dead or reformed, a desperate character, a full-fledged villain and cut-throat, there seems to have been abundant evidence.

#### THE MURDER OF JOHN SCHROEDER.

In the summer of 1878 a couple of Germans, named Fred Hitman and John Schroeder, came into Olmsted county, from Davenport, Iowa, and hired out to work in harvest on Greenwood prairie, in the town of Farmington. They were strong, robust men, and at the time of their coming to Minnesota they could have had no thought of the tragic and terrible ending of their summer trip to the broad and golden wheatfields on Greenwood prairie. What that end was we will now proceed briefly to narrate.

On the 4th of September, 1878, Mr. Amos Parks, an old resident of the town of Farmington, came to Rochester and notified coroner Mosse that the dead body of a man had been found, and was then lying in a grove about fifty rods north of Mr. Parks' residence. Accordingly, coroner Mosse, together with county-attorney Eckholdt, sheriff White and constable Sherman went out to Farmington, a distance of about fourteen miles, the same evening, when the coroner proceeded to hold an inquest over the dead body in the place where it was found.

The facts brought out at the inquest, and which were substantially corroborated at the subsequent examination of the alleged murderer, were mainly as follows:

The body was fully identified as that of John Schroeder, who had recently come into the town of Farmington, and whose home was supposed to be at Davenport, Iowa. He had accumulated twenty-one dollars in money, which, a few days previous, he had handed to a Mr. Schultz for safe keeping, and at the same time hired out to Schultz to work in threshing. On the last Saturday previous to the inquest it was shown that Schultz paid Schroeder seven dollars which he had earned in threshing, and at the same time handed to Schroeder the twenty-one dollars deposited with him. The same morning Fred Hitman went to the residence of Mr. Schultz, from whence Hitman and Schroeder went together to Pots-

dam, a small village near by, and where they remained over Sunday. The two men were seen in company by several of the neighbors that day, and the deceased told one of the witnesses that he and Hitman were going to sleep out in the brush that night. The same evening deceased went to the residence of Mr. Parks and asked for work. Mr. Parks told him that he did not wish to hire any help. Schroeder called for something to eat, offering to pay for it. He said he had a partner up the road. Mr. Parks looked up the road and saw a man standing there in the road. Mr. Parks told Schroeder that he could have some supper, and asked him if his partner did not want something to eat. Schroeder said he thought he did, but he did not believe he would come to the house to get it. Schroeder then left, but did not come back for his supper. Several persons passing that way in the evening noticed the camp-fire in the grove. Men's voices were heard in the brush about the fire, and one man, Mr. Schultz, recognized the voices as those of Hitman and Schroeder. The dead body was first discovered by a young man named Herbert Barnhart, while hunting rabbits in the grove. The skull of the dead man, on the right side, was fractured, and the verdict of the jury was to the effect that deceased came to his death by a blow upon the head "from a blunt instrument in the hands of a person whose name is, to the jurors, unknown."

Hitman was seen in Rochester a day or two after the murder, and then disappeared. By this time suspicion began to be generally fixed on Hitman as the murderer of Schroeder, and sheriff White and his deputies immediately took active measures for his capture, for which purpose the telegraphic wires were industriously employed. In the course of four or five days sheriff White received a telegram from the chief of police at Davenport, Iowa, stating that Hitman had been arrested at that place and asking if he should hold him. Upon receiving this information the sheriff immediately left for Davenport. Arriving at Davenport, sheriff White obtained an interview with the chief of police, and the two officers went together to the jail, where Hitman was confined. The prisoner being brought out, the sheriff asked him a few questions about Schroeder and other matters connected with the prisoner's movements about Potsdam and Farmington. From Hitman's replies, and also from a well-executed photograph of him which sheriff White had with him, he was sure that he had found the man which he was in pursuit of, and brought him to Rochester and locked him up in jail.

On Monday, the 23d, Hitman had an examination before Justice L. L. Eaton, of Rochester. County-attorney Eckholdt, assisted by C. M. Start, Esq., conducted the prosecution; Messrs. Jones and Gove appearing for the defense. The examination resulted in the accused being held to await the action of the grand jury at the next general term of the district court, commencing on the first Monday of December following.

The court convened pursuant to statute, Hon. William Mitchell presiding. The grand jury found an indictment against Fred Hitman for murder in the first degree. Upon being arraigned the accused plead guilty. He then arose to his feet and the judge asked him if he had anything to say why the sentence of the court should not be passed upon him. Hitman replied that he had not. Judge Mitchell then said he had "no disposition to intensify the effect of the sentence which he was about to pass upon him. You have plead guilty of the commission of the highest crime known to the law and against society, by taking the life of a fellow-being. The safety of society, as well as persons and property, depends upon the sacredness of human life. The sentence of the court is that you be taken to the state prison at Stillwater and there confined at hard labor for the remainder of your natural life, and that on the first day of each month you be kept in solitary confinement."

It might be well to state here that capital punishment was practically abolished in Minnesota by an act of the legislature in the winter of 1869.

At the time of the murder Hitman was about thirty years of age. He is of medium height, of well-rounded, compact form; weight about 175 pounds. His facial conformation would not denote either a fool or a villain, and yet he has a wicked-looking eye in his head. At the time of his arrest, and during his confinement, he maintained a wonderful firmness and self-control, and even in the last fearful ordeal in the courtroom his self-possession did not entirely forsake him. While receiving the dreadful sentence which assigned him to a prisoner's cell until released by death, the blood rushed to his face and the nervous throbbings evinced a considerable degree of mental pain and disturbance.

#### THE MURDER OF TERRANCE DESMOND.

On the 24th of June, 1880, coroner Nichols received a telegram from A. A. Cady, sent from Chatfield, stating that the dead body of Terrance Desmond, a farmer and former resident of the town of



*Henry O. Kutter*





Elmira, had been found in a grove on his farm, in a condition showing that the man had been murdered. Deputy-coroner Benjamin left immediately for the place designated, and took prompt measures toward holding an inquest over the remains of the deceased. A coroner's jury was duly summoned and several witnesses were examined, when the following-named facts were elicited: Mr. Desmond was seen alive for the last time on the afternoon of Wednesday, June 23, about four o'clock. There were various conjectures respecting his sudden and mysterious disappearance, and a search for him was instituted. His scythe, which he had been using to cut weeds, was found hanging in a tree. Search was made in the immediate vicinity, but not finding the missing man, some of the party went to a field of sugar-cane where the deceased had also been at work on the afternoon of his disappearance. The body was found about twenty rods west of the canefield, and close by the remains there was a spot in the grass and weeds where it was evident that some person had been recently sitting down. Deceased was lying on the face, with his right hand under him and his hat directly in front of him at a spot just where he had evidently come out of the thick brush into the path. The blood from his wounds had run down the hill and his clothing was saturated with blood from head to feet. His throat had been cut from ear to ear. The gash was fully seven inches in length and severed the jugular vein and the windpipe. There was another cut just below the one first mentioned, and there were also two stabs over the left ear and one behind the ear. The skull was mashed in directly above the ear. About two rods from the body a heavy seasoned oak club, some five or six feet in length, upon which were bloody spots and hair, was found.

Mrs. Ellen Desmond, wife of the murdered man, testified that her late husband was last seen at four o'clock Wednesday afternoon, when he came down to the house from the field to look after some colts. She stated that her husband was in a hurry, saying that he must return to the field at once to finish some work before it was time to attend to the chores. Mrs. Desmond also said that there had been hard feelings between her husband and Edwin Reynolds, a brother-in-law and neighbor of the deceased, but she did not think the enmity so great as to provoke murder.

The jury returned a verdict that Mr. Desmond came to his death by a blow from a club upon the head and by his throat being cut by some person to them unknown.

Charles Van Allen, a boy eighteen years of age, and who was at work for Mr. Desmond at the time of the murder, was arrested on suspicion of having committed the bloody deed, brought to Rochester by sheriff White and lodged in jail.

On the 27th of July Van Allen had an examination, conducted by county-attorney Eckholdt, before Justice Laird, at Chatfield, on the charge of murder. The hearing commenced at one o'clock in the afternoon and lasted until three o'clock the following morning. Over thirty witnesses were examined, but the evidence not being deemed sufficient to warrant the court in holding the accused, he was discharged. Edwin Reynolds, before spoken of, and who was present at the examination of Van Allen, was immediately arrested by sheriff White on a warrant issued by Justice Laird and made returnable before Justice S. W. Eaton at Rochester. Reynolds was brought before Justice Eaton on Thursday, the 28th, when an adjournment was had till nine o'clock the next morning. C. Kingsley, Esq., of Chatfield, and R. A. Jones, Esq., of Rochester, appeared for the defense; the state was represented by county-attorney Eckholdt. The examination lasted two days, twenty-five witnesses having been examined. The testimony in the case on the part of the state was, that Reynolds and deceased had for some time past been at great enmity with one another; that a few weeks previously the two had had a fight; that Reynolds had bitten Desmond's face pretty badly in the fight, though the former got soundly whipped at last; that Reynolds subsequently prosecuted deceased for an assault, lost his case and had to pay the costs of suit, amounting to about \$20. Several of the witnesses testified that Reynolds was of an ugly, quarrelsome nature, and that he had frequently been heard to say that he would "make away with Desmond before long." The examination resulted in the accused being held to await the action of the grand jury at the following December term of the district court.

The court convened on December 6, Hon. William Mitchell presiding. The grand jury found an indictment against Reynolds for the willful murder of Terrance Desmond. On being arraigned and required to plead to the indictment, Reynolds plead not guilty. On Wednesday, the second week of the session, the case of the State *v.* Reynolds was called, county-attorney Eckholdt being assisted by attorney-general Start, on the part of the state.

After some delay a jury was impaneled and the trial proceeded.

The case was given to the jury Thursday afternoon, and after being out about twenty hours, they returned into court and informed the judge that they were unable to agree upon a verdict. It was understood that the final vote stood eleven for acquittal and one for conviction.

Judge Mitchell required Reynolds to give bail in the sum of \$2,000 for his appearance at the next term of court, but in default of bail he was kept in jail until March 18, 1881, when he was released on his own recognizance, and on August 6 following, Judge Start, successor of Judge Mitchell on the bench, ordered the action dismissed.

#### MURDER OF JOHN NEVINS.

On September 18, 1880, John Nevins, aged about fifty years, and a well-to-do farmer, residing in the town of Viola, was fatally shot with a pistol in the hands of Frank Bulen, a young man, stepson of Mr. Robert Moody, of Haverhill. The circumstances of the shooting, together with the final disposal of Bulen, were substantially as follows :

About six o'clock in the afternoon of the day in question, Mr. John English, who resides in the town of Haverhill, came to Rochester and informed marshal Kalb and sheriff White that John Nevins had been murdered by a man in his (Nevins') employ, named Frank Bulen. Coroner Sedgwick, county-attorney Eckholdt, sheriff White and constable Cole immediately left for the scene of the murder, about ten miles northeast from the city of Rochester. As soon as the officers arrived a coroner's jury, consisting of Messrs. H. K. Blethen, Z. Ricker, Roger Mulvahill, Martin Brennan, Thomas Scanlan and John J. Lawlor were sworn and the examination commenced, conducted by county-attorney Eckholdt.

John Burk, the only eye-witness present at the shooting, was the first witness examined. From his statements, under oath, it appears that Mr. Nevins returned from Rochester at about three o'clock in the afternoon of the day of the murder. After putting his horses in the stable, Nevins commenced cursing his wife, who was near the stable, threatening to kick her. Mr. Burk, thinking Nevins was about to violently assault his wife, stepped between them and told Nevins to stop. Nevins then struck Burk in the face. The two men soon caught each other by the throat, and, after struggling some time, Burk called to Bulen, who was in the yard near the house, to come over and help him. Bulen started for the spot where



the two men were fighting, and when he had got within about one and one-half rods of them he pulled out a revolver and told Nevins he would shoot if he didn't stop. Bulen repeated the warning two or three times, but Nevins paid no heed to it, and Bulen discharged his revolver. Nevins cried out, "I am shot!" and spat out a mouthful of blood. Nevins still kept hold of his antagonist until Frank fired the second shot, when Nevins let go his hold of Burk's throat, staggered back a few steps and fell to the ground, and in ten minutes he was dead. The witness stated, however, that the first shot must have been the fatal one, as the second shot did not hit Nevins at all.

As soon as the murdered man began to stagger Bulen started off on a run, and was soon out of sight. Several other witnesses were examined, and their testimony elicited some additional minor facts, entirely consistent with and corroborative of Burk's statements, and the verdict of the jury was in accordance with the facts as sworn to by the witnesses.

The guilty and terrified Frank ran about a mile, and hid himself in a straw-stack. Sheriff White made a vigilant search for him the same night, but failed to find him. The next morning, about six o'clock, Mr. John English, on whose farm the straw-stack was, saw Frank crawling out of the straw-pile. As he came up Mr. English said, "Is that you, Frank?"

"Yes, it is me," said Bulen, "and I have done a bad deed."

"Indeed you have, and you are my prisoner, Frank," said Mr. English.

Frank quietly surrendered himself, gave up his revolver, and went into Mr. English's house. The same morning Mr. English brought Bulen to Rochester, and turned him over to deputy-sheriff Bamber at the county jail.

From a lengthy and detailed account of the homicide, given by the "Rochester Post," of September 24, 1880, we extract the following:

"Bulen is a boy in stature, of what might be termed a stubby build. He is chunky in his make-up, about twenty-two years old, dark complexion, smooth face and short hair. He appears like a good-natured young man, and one whom no one would expect to find behind the bars of prison-doors, charged with the terrible crime of killing his fellow man.

"In answer to a question as to whether he wished to make a state-

ment he replied in the affirmative: Bulen states that he has been work for Nevins for over two years. Nevins, he says, has been drunk frequently, and has abused him and the family very often. Mrs. Nevins' children, by a former husband, were also the objects of his abuse. It was only a little over a week ago that Nevins drove his stepson, Jerry Creed, away from home by his persecution.

"On Saturday afternoon Bulen came in from the field and went to the house to change his wet clothes for some dry ones. While he was there one of the Creed girls came to the house and told him that Nevins was trying to kill Burk. He ran down until within about thirty feet of them, saw that Burk's face was all bloody, and told Nevins twice to let go or he would shoot. He did not let up, but continued to strike Burk, and I fired to scare him, not intending to hit him. As the first shot did not scare him off, I shot again to scarce; then I saw him stagger. I turned and went away. I walked around until dark, when I went to Mr. English's stable, and went to sleep, and was arrested as described before. Bulen said he had threatened to shoot Nevins for his abuse and vile epithets, but he only intended to shoot to scare him."

On Monday morning, after the murder, Frank was brought before Justice S. W. Eaton for examination on the charge of murder, county-attorney Eckholdt appearing for the state. The accused had no attorney, and, waiving examination, he was committed to jail to await the action of the grand jury at the December term of court.

At the session of the court named the grand jury returned an indictment against Frank Bulen, for the murder of John Nevins. On being arraigned the accused took the statutory time to plead, C. C. Willson, Esq., appearing as his counsel. Bulen finally plead guilty to murder in the second degree, and Judge Mitchell sentenced him to state's prison for four years. The circumstances attending, or rather provoking and inciting, the murder, considered in connection with the youthfulness of the prisoner, and his evident lack of a proper conception of the nature and magnitude of his crime, were all taken into account by the court in fixing the penalty.

## CHAPTER VII.

### EDUCATION.

#### THE FINANCIAL BASIS OF OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS — SCHOOL LANDS.

THE "Organic Act of the Territory of Minnesota," approved March 3, 1849, and also the act authorizing a state government, approved February 27, 1857, set apart sections numbered 16 and 36 in every township of public lands for the use of schools. Sections one and two of article eight of the state constitution read as follows :

SEC. 1. The stability of a republican form of government depending mainly upon the intelligence of the people, it shall be the duty of the legislature to establish a general and uniform system of public schools.

SEC. 2. The proceeds of such lands as are, or hereafter may be, granted by the United States for the use of schools within each township in this state shall remain a perpetual school fund to the state, and not more than one-third of said lands may be sold in two years, one-third in five years, and one-third in ten years ; but the lands of the greatest valuation shall be sold first : *provided*, that no portion of said lands shall be sold otherwise than at public sale. The principal of all funds arising from sales or other disposition of lands or other property granted to this state in each township for educational purposes shall forever be preserved inviolate and undiminished ; and the income arising from the lease or sale of said school lands shall be distributed to the different townships throughout the state, in proportion to the number of scholars in each township between the ages of five and twenty-one years, and shall be faithfully applied to the specific objects of the original grants or appropriations.

The legislature of 1861 fixed the minimum price of school lands at five dollars per acre ; provided for their appraisal by a board to be appointed in each county and enacted that all lands should be sold in the counties where situated.

The terms of payment are, "for pine lands the whole amount ; for other timber lands, which are chiefly valuable for the timber thereon, seventy-five per cent to be paid at the time of sale, and all

other lands fifteen per cent to be paid at the time of sale, and the balance of the purchase money at any time thereafter, within twenty years, at the option of the purchaser, with interest annually in advance, at the rate of seven per cent per annum on the unpaid balance."

Under the munificent grant referred to above, Olmsted county received thirty-six sections, or 23,040 acres of school lands, nearly all of which were valuable for agricultural purposes or for their timber. At the May session of the board of county commissioners, in 1862, W. D. Hurlbut, George Baker and Zebina Handerson were appointed a board of appraisers. Most of the lands were valued at their minimum price as fixed by law, but some tracts of timber were placed at higher figures, and the school section near the city of Rochester was subdivided into small tracts, and prices were put at \$12 to \$75 dollars per acre, according to location. A new board of appraisers was appointed a few years later, but, as most of the lands had been sold, its duties were comparatively light. This board consisted of J. V. Daniels, George Cook and B. F. Perry.

The first sale of school lands, situated in this county, took place at the old court-house, now known as the "Broadway House," in the autumn of 1862. The bidding was spirited, as nearly ten thousand dollars of purchase money was paid to the state auditor at the time. At this writing, February, 1883, but thirty-five and one-half acres remain unsold.

The total sales amount to \$150,869.57, which gives an average of \$6.55 per acre.

*TABLE showing the amount received from the sales of school lands, known as the "permanent school fund," each year, from the beginning in 1863 to 1883.*

Year.	Amount per pupil.	Whole amount received.	Year.	Amount per pupil.	Whole amount received.
1863....	\$ 23	\$ 800 40	1873.....	\$ 96	\$6,934 08
1864....	1 08	4,542 48	1874.....	98	7,249 08
1865....	74	3,381 80	1875.....	91	6,890 52
1866....	90	5,019 30	1876.....	98	7,733 18
1867....	90	5,412 60	1877.....	1 31	8,576 19
1868....	1 01	6,438 75	1878.....	1 35	9,009 90
1869....	1 15	7,834 95	1879.....	1 43	9,440 86
1870....	1 23	8,811 72	1880.....	1 50	9,363 00
1871....	1 05	7,500 15	1881.....	1 50	8,949 00
1872....	96	6,959 52	1882.....	1 50	8,615 98

Total receipts for twenty years, \$139,463.46; average receipts for the same time, \$6,973.17.



## GENERAL TAX.

The first school law, which was passed in 1851, provided for the "laying of an annual tax of one-fourth of one per cent of the ad valorem amount of the assessment rolls" for the support of common schools.

This general tax has been levied every year down to the present time, but the rate named was reduced to two mills in 1862, and further reduced to one mill in 1875, where it now remains. The proceeds of this tax were formerly divided equally, according to the school population of the county, but the legislation of 1874 changed this rule, and the exact sum raised in any district is now returned to it.

*TABLE showing the amount of two-mill tax collected each year from 1864 to 1874, inclusive, and the amount of one-mill tax collected from 1875 to 1882, inclusive.*

Year.	Am't collected.	Year.	Am't collected.	Year.	Am't collected.
1864.....	\$2,021 29	1871.....	\$ 9,215 89	1878.....	\$ 9,429 96
1865.....	4,737 31	1872.....	8,730 18	1879.....	10,375 78
1866.....	4,358 70	1873.....	8,968 51	1880.....	10,299 06
1867.....	4,899 04	1874.....	10,171 02	1881.....	8,075 81
1868.....	6,918 74	1875.....	16,438 09	1882.....	8,931 96
1869.....	8,772 33	1876.....	9,425 53		
1870.....	8,879 79	1877.....	9,426 17		

Total amount of general tax, \$160,075.16.

## FINES, LICENSES.

The school-law named above also provided "for the better support of common schools and the general diffusion of education" by requiring the county treasurer of each county to set apart twenty-five per cent of funds arising from licenses for the sale of liquors, and the proceeds of all fines for the breach of any penal law of the territory. This provision, with some modifications, has been continued to the present time. The money arising from fines, licenses and estrays is now apportioned to the several districts of the county; special districts, where other disposition is made of these funds, forming the sole exceptions to this rule.

*TABLE showing the receipts from fines, licenses and estrays from 1868, when first reported by the state superintendent, to 1882, inclusive.*

Year.	Amount.	Year.	Amount.	Year.	Amount.
1868.....	\$ 266 77	1873.....	\$1,124 33	1878.....	\$ 898 77
1869.....	1,173 32	1874.....	757 23	1879.....	1,279 83
1870.....	1,074 34	1875.....	847 95	1880.....	795 00
1871.....	297 03	1876.....	483 31	1881.....	373 76
1872.....	472 28	1877.....	520 05	1882.....	1,060 36

Total receipts for fifteen years, \$11,424.33; average for same time, \$761.62.

The several districts are authorized by law to vote special taxes for school purposes. The old county fund from general school-tax was restricted to the payment of teachers, and the districts were obliged to build schoolhouses and meet current expenses. The school code of 1851 provided that whenever the current fund was insufficient for the necessary expenses incurred in the maintenance of a school, the district might vote the sum required to meet the deficiency. In 1864 a maximum limit to special taxation was fixed at eight mills on the dollar, with a proviso that this rate might be increased in districts where the proceeds of such a levy would not reach \$600, the absolute limit. The law of 1877 provided that the tax for the erection of a schoolhouse should not exceed ten mills on the dollar, and that nine mills in addition to the one mill tax should be the limit of special taxation for school purposes. At the present time any common-school district may vote a tax not exceeding eight mills on the dollar for building a house and purchasing a site; but any district in which the above rate will not produce the sum of \$600, in one year, may raise that sum if the rate does not exceed twenty-five mills, and it may also vote such additional amounts for other school purposes as may be deemed necessary.

*TABLE showing the amount of special school taxes collected each year, from October, 1864, to 1882, inclusive.*

Year.	Tax collected.	Year.	Tax collected.	Year.	Tax collected.
1864.....	\$ 2,551 81	1871.....	\$47,036 22	1878.....	\$55,195 85
1865.....	11,398 37	1872.....	48,894 10	1879.....	41,018 55
1866.....	14,802 52	1873.....	39,523 31	1880.....	40,322 41
1867.....	39,867 11	1874.....	47,534 00	1881.....	30,557 10
1868.....	42,119 35	1875.....	48,894 34	1882.....	30,390 38
1869.....	43,870 79	1876.....	49,754 46		
1870.....	54,179 41	1877.....	52,325 98		

## RECAPITULATION.

Total receipts from permanent school fund.....	\$ 139,463 46
" " " one and two mill tax.....	160,075 16
" " " fines etc. from 1868.....	11,424 33
" " " special school tax .....	740,236 06

Grand total receipts from all sources.....\$1,041,199 01

It is proper to state that the amount of special and general tax collected in 1864, as given in the above tables, was not the total for that year, as the auditors' books begin with the October settlement. It will be seen that the average annual expenditure was \$54,799.90. Of this amount, the sum of \$38,954.79 was raised by voluntary taxation; \$8,450.08 by taxes imposed by the state; \$7,298.05 came from interest on the permanent school fund, and \$761.62 from fines, licenses and sale of estrays.

Of the grand total as given above, not less than \$196,695 was expended for building schoolhouses, leaving a balance of \$844,504.01, or \$44,447.37 per annum for the ordinary expenses of the schools. As the average annual enrollment was 5,544, it follows that the cost per pupil was \$8.19 per annum.

The economist will be interested in the following statement showing the actual cost of our public schools for the last decade.

Total receipts from all sources for last ten years....	\$628,960.65
Average receipts for each year .....	62,896.06
Average number of pupils enrolled.....	6,585
Cost per school year for each pupil.....	\$9.55
Average length of school year in months.....	6.68
Cost per month for each pupil.....	\$1.41
Cost per day for each pupil .....	0.07

## RATE OF SPECIAL TAXATION.

The valuable tables which follow were carefully prepared by O. O. Whited, a prominent teacher of the county, now connected with the auditor's office. They show the rate of special taxation in every district in the county for the past ten years in mills and tenths of a mill, and the average rate for the whole period in mills and hundredths. The reader will see what the schools are costing aside from state aid, and how his district compares with others. Close inspection will show that some districts have levied less than one-half mill per annum, while others run as high as eleven, twelve, or even thirteen, mills. The average rate for the county is four and forty-eight hundredths mills for the whole term. Find the number of your district on the left and see whether it goes above or falls below these figures.

No. districts.	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	Average for ten years.
1.....	4.0	2.5	2.6	2.5	4.0	1.4	0	2.7	3.3	4.9	2.79
2.....	12.6	4.4	10.6	13.5	9.1	20.8	19.0	19.0	12.5	13.3	13.48
3.....	17.6	14.2	6.8	4.5	7.0	3.0	2.7	3.0	2.5	4.4	6.57
4.....	10.0	3.9	2.9	4.0	6.0	5.0	6.0	6.5	1.4	2.0	4.77
5.....	10.0	4.0	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.1	2.8	4.0	2.2	6.6	4.34
6.....	11.4	3.3	2.5	2.5	4.0	3.1	3.0	3.5	3.2	3.9	4.04
7.....	23.1	11.4	11.8	5.0	5.5	8.6	3.2	4.0	3.8	3.4	7.93
8.....	12.0	10.0	9.0	9.0	10.0	5.3	6.6	6.1	4.1	5.0	7.71
9.....	14.0	5.0	10.5	6.4	4.5	4.0	4.3	3.0	2.0	4.3	5.80
10.....	12.3	5.8	5.2	6.0	6.5	4.7	4.8	4.5	3.7	4.0	5.75
11.....	9.4	9.5	2.8	5.5	5.5	5.8	4.0	11.0	7.7	8.4	6.96
12.....	6.7	4.4	4.5	3.3	4.0	2.8	2.8	3.4	3.1	4.2	3.92
13.....	6.8	5.0	5.1	3.5	4.5	3.1	3.7	1.1	1.7	4.5	3.90
14.....	12.1	1.5	.0	1.5	2.0	1.4	6.0	0.7	4.4	.8	3.04
15.....	5.5	3.8	.8	1.2	3.0	2.5	1.4	1.6	1.3	1.2	2.23
16.....	3.4	2.4	2.9	2.0	9.0	3.5	5.0	2.5	2.4	3.6	3.67
17.....	3.2	1.8	2.2	2.0	2.0	1.5	1.0	1.5	1.7	2.0	1.89
18.....	.0	6.9	1.5	3.5	7.0	2.8	1.0	2.0	1.7	1.7	2.81
19.....	12.5	8.4	6.1	5.2	4.0	3.0	4.7	3.3	5.0	4.2	5.64
20.....	11.4	5.7	4.5	4.0	4.0	3.7	1.6	.0	1.7	2.4	3.90
21.....	4.7	.0	1.5	3.5	3.5	9.1	3.5	5.0	4.6	4.4	3.98
22.....	11.6	6.0	2.8	1.4	3.0	4.0	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.6	4.29
23.....	2.7	3.0	1.7	2.5	7.0	5.8	3.5	3.0	2.0	3.1	3.53
24.....	2.3	1.3	19.5	12.1	2.0	2.3	2.2	2.5	1.8	2.2	4.82
25.....	5.5	3.2	1.5	2.0	3.0	2.1	4.4	5.0	3.8	2.0	3.25
26.....	8.6	4.6	3.9	4.3	4.5	2.3	2.7	2.5	2.5	2.0	3.79
27.....	6.6	3.2	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	7.8	1.76
28.....	2.8	11.8	8.3	4.5	8.0	1.4	0.4	3.4	4.9	4.2	4.97
29.....	6.4	3.5	1.4	9.0	12.2	2.4	0.6	3.0	4.1	3.6	4.62
30.....	3.3	2.1	1.3	.0	0.7	1.3	0.8	1.0	1.0	0.5	1.20
*30.....	5.0	3.4	.0	.0	3.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	5.0	1.64
31.....	6.0	3.9	4.3	6.0	4.5	4.0	3.3	5.0	4.8	4.1	4.59
*31.....	.0	4.2	.0	4.5	4.0	1.8	1.7	3.0	3.2	2.0	2.44
32.....	6.2	2.2	.0	2.8	5.5	2.0	2.5	.0	2.7	5.0	2.89
33.....	10.0	4.6	.0	5.5	4.5	4.4	2.7	2.5	3.2	4.9	4.23
34.....	6.0	3.4	3.5	4.0	7.0	2.6	3.0	5.0	3.2	3.0	4.07
35.....	8.4	3.3	3.6	10.5	10.0	7.3	7.6	6.5	.0	1.0	5.82
36.....	5.0	3.0	2.4	3.6	4.0	2.4	1.8	1.0	1.4	0.9	2.55
37.....	6.0	10.1	3.3	4.5	4.0	3.6	3.3	5.0	5.5	2.9	4.82
38.....	8.7	2.5	7.8	11.0	2.5	3.3	.0	.0	1.8	0.9	3.85
39.....	5.6	5.7	5.4	3.5	4.5	5.6	4.7	4.0	3.7	4.1	4.68
40.....	10.2	5.4	.0	7.0	7.0	4.5	3.1	2.5	2.1	0.4	3.52
*41.....	2.0	7.0	13.5	4.0	10.0	5.2	4.5	3.6	2.9	2.5	4.52
42.....	7.0	3.2	.0	4.3	1.0	0.6	3.8	1.6	2.2	3.4	2.71
43.....	.0	.0	.0	1.0	0.5	3.6	.0	.0	.0	.0	.51
44.....	17.3	8.2	1.4	3.2	2.0	1.6	3.8	1.7	4.3	1.9	5.54
45.....	13.8	7.5	6.3	6.0	1.0	3.3	1.5	2.0	3.5	4.0	4.79
46.....	17.7	6.3	4.5	8.0	8.5	4.1	3.3	4.0	2.4	2.8	6.16
47.....	17.0	18.3	9.5	6.2	2.5	2.2	1.8	3.5	2.5	3.6	5.21
48.....	13.3	5.1	8.3	8.5	5.0	.0	2.0	0.6	2.6	4.3	4.97*
49.....	6.0	3.4	2.8	3.3	3.4	2.5	2.3	1.5	1.1	1.6	2.79
50.....	.0	1.0	3.5	2.5	3.5	.0	2.3	1.0	1.7	2.5	1.70
51.....	5.3	15.6	13.9	5.4	4.2	3.2	4.2	2.7	2.0	1.1	5.73
*51.....	5.1	3.7	3.1	.0	5.0	6.8	2.3	1.2	5.5	4.2	3.69
52.....	.0	2.8	1.4	1.8	2.2	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.7	1.0	1.20
*52.....	19.6	10.6	9.4	6.0	2.8	2.4	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.1	5.56
53.....	3.8	1.2	1.9	2.3	2.0	1.5	0.9	0.7	1.4	1.4	1.71

\*Joint.



No. districts.	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	Average for ten years.
54.....	5.3	4.1	3.6	5.0	4.0	3.1	3.0	4.3	3.2	3.7	3.93
55.....	13.8	8.1	1.5	3.5	3.5	2.7	2.7	3.0	2.9	3.4	4.51
56.....	12.6	6.6	2.0	13.5	15.0	12.1	12.3	15.0	14.2	17.6	12.07
57.....	10.0	6.4	6.5	6.0	3.0	2.6	1.7	.0	4.8	2.9	4.39
*57.....	.....	.....	.0	.0	.0	.0	5.4	.0	5.2	7.5	.....
58.....	2.0	1.6	.0	5	2.0	12.5	.0	1.2	1.5	1.9	2.32
59.....	12.5	7.3	.0	2.0	5.5	4.2	1.0	2.5	.0	2.2	3.72
60.....	9.3	3.5	2.4	3.6	4.0	1.8	1.7	2.5	2.9	6.0	3.77
61.....	10.9	6.8	3.6	3.0	5.0	4.0	2.0	2.5	.0	3.4	4.12
*62.....	24.8	5.6	5.1	4.2	4.0	3.6	5.5	5.8	3.8	2.6	6.50
63.....	6.7	3.7	.0	17.0	11.5	4.1	4.0	5.0	4.9	4.6	6.15
64.....	4.3	1.5	3.2	3.0	2.5	2.3	2.8	.0	.0	.0	1.96
65.....	9.5	2.0	.0	4.0	3.0	1.1	0.0	9.0	3.1	2.1	3.38
66.....	21.1	8.7	1.8	3.4	2.5	2.1	1.0	1.0	1.8	1.8	4.52
67.....	16.2	5.7	3.5	4.0	4.0	3.0	2.6	1.2	.8	3.1	4.41
68.....	.0	4.6	12.5	6.3	5.0	1.7	1.2	2.0	2.7	3.3	3.93
*69.....	3.6	1.9	1.5	.0	1.5	.0	2.5	.0	.0	.0	1.10
70.....	.0	0.5	1.9	1.0	.0	0.5	.0	.0	.0	.0	.39
*71.....	24.9	15.6	7.8	4.0	5.0	3.7	3.5	5.5	4.2	3.6	7.77
72.....	5.7	2.6	3.5	3.3	2.5	1.7	1.8	2.0	2.0	2.4	2.75
73.....	11.3	7.9	7.5	5.0	3.5	3.6	2.0	2.0	1.5	1.7	4.60
74.....	8.3	11.4	2.3	.0	.0	2.8	2.0	1.6	2.1	2.6	3.31
75.....	.0	3.4	3.3	2.2	3.0	3.4	4.8	3.5	3.3	3.5	3.04
*75.....	3.2	1.4	2.1	4.0	3.0	.0	2.5	.0	1.7	.0	1.79
76.....	1.0	7.7	3.9	1.0	.0	.5	0.3	2.3	.0	.4	1.71
77.....	6.0	2.4	2.9	3.0	2.5	.5	2.0	1.0	.7	1.7	2.27
78.....	5.1	2.0	2.5	1.5	6.0	5.3	5.0	3.2	.8	1.2	3.26
79.....	2.8	2.0	1.0	10.0	2.5	2.8	2.4	3.3	3.2	3.7	3.37
80.....	14.4	4.4	5.1	5.0	5.0	3.6	3.5	4.0	3.8	3.4	5.22
81.....	.0	9.0	3.2	8.4	10.0	3.5	3.6	3.0	2.8	3.6	4.71
82.....	6.4	3.5	5.0	2.8	2.0	.7	2.5	3.0	3.0	4.2	3.31
83.....	17.9	2.0	2.5	2.0	2.5	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.4	3.39
84.....	3.3	1.4	10.3	1.5	1.5	1.2	0.8	.0	0.5	.8	1.13
85.....	9.2	5.0	7.3	5.5	2.5	1.7	4.2	2.2	2.2	2.4	4.22
86.....	4.4	3.3	3.1	8.5	5.0	7.6	14.0	12.2	11.9	8.2	7.82
87.....	13.8	4.3	3.6	4.0	3.0	2.6	3.8	3.3	3.3	3.8	4.55
88.....	3.0	2.4	3.7	2.0	.0	2.5	1.4	4.0	5.2	4.0	2.82
89.....	7.8	5.7	2.3	2.0	5.0	4.3	3.4	3.0	2.9	3.0	3.94
90.....	8.4	5.6	4.0	2.5	5.5	3.3	6.0	6.0	1.3	3.0	4.56
91.....	1.0	.5	.5	0.5	.5	1.2	0.3	5.0	0.5	.3	1.03
92.....	14.1	7.5	8.4	6.0	.0	2.9	2.2	1.0	2.0	2.4	4.65
93.....	3.3	2.5	7.5	3.6	2.5	3.5	2.8	2.7	0.2	1.4	3.00
94.....	11.5	6.8	5.8	4.5	1.5	1.4	1.3	4.0	2.1	5.2	4.41
95.....	13.7	6.0	1.4	3.5	7.5	3.7	2.7	3.0	3.0	4.0	4.85
96.....	6.0	3.2	2.3	3.0	2.0	.5	3.0	5.0	4.4	3.7	3.31
97.....	.0	.....	.0	.0	.0	.0	0.9	1.0	1.1	3.4	.64
98.....	10.1	5.3	2.5	3.6	5.0	5.0	3.0	7.0	1.4	1.3	4.43
99.....	15.5	7.0	15.1	15.0	7.0	3.9	3.5	4.8	5.5	4.0	8.13
100.....	11.5	7.0	7.0	7.3	6.5	5.3	3.3	2.0	2.5	3.3	5.57
*101.....	.....	.....	.....	25.0	2.5	6.0	2.5	2.5	2.1	.0	.....
103.....	13.4	3.9	4.0	2.5	2.0	2.1	2.0	14.0	5.7	3.2	5.28
105.....	8.0	4.3	3.9	3.5	.0	1.9	2.5	1.8	2.0	3.5	3.14
106.....	9.1	5.3	3.3	2.5	2.0	8.5	6.5	5.7	1.7	2.5	4.71
107.....	13.7	10.5	10.2	8.0	8.0	5.4	6.7	6.3	6.0	6.2	8.10
108.....	10.8	23.5	8.7	4.0	8.0	10.7	7.7	6.6	5.5	3.8	6.93
109.....	12.0	8.0	5.1	11.4	7.0	1.4	4.1	5.1	8.0	6.0	6.81
110.....	11.0	4.8	4.6	4.0	4.0	2.8	3.6	4.0	4.4	4.6	4.78

\*Joint.

No. districts.	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	Average for ten years.
111.....	10 0	6.7	7.8	3.8	5.5	4.0	3.6	2.5	3.4	3.1	5.04
112.....	3.7	2.6	2.8	.0	2.0	2.3	2.0	1.8	0.9	2.7	2.08
113.....	5 0	13.7	4.3	4.5	4.5	.0	3.3	3.0	3.8	3.7	4.58
114.....	4.0	1.4	1 0	2.5	2.5	1.8	1.8	2.0	4.7	7.2	2.89
115.....	13.3	5.2	2.9	1.2	3.0	2.2	3.0	2.2	2.4	2.2	3.76
116.....	6.0	6.0	3.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	3.0	10.8	5.7	5.45
117.....	47.5	12.1	11.0	13.5	6.5	6.0	3.3	5.0	4.9	4.2	11.40
118.....	5.8	2.4	2.3	3.0	3.5	1.9	1.6	1.3	2.0	2.1	2.59
119.....	7.6	8.2	3.7	4.5	3.5	2.2	.0	3.0	4.3	3.0	4.00
120.....	7.2	4.0	2.7	3.0	3.5	.7	2.4	4.0	.0	.0	2.75
*120.....	.....	.....	.....	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	4.5	4.8	.....
121.....	32.0	12.7	11.6	4.5	3.0	1.7	2.7	3.4	2.9	2.9	7.74
122.....	9.5	3.3	4.9	6.0	7.0	5.0	4.0	4.5	6.6	7.5	5.83
123.....	7.7	5.1	5.8	3.5	3.5	4.0	2.3	3.4	3.2	4.0	4.15
124.....	8.5	0.8	3.6	4.5	4.0	4.3	3.5	3.4	5.4	4.4	4.24
125.....	11.2	3.0	7.5	9.0	13.0	11.3	8.8	13.1	12.3	16.4	10.56
126.....	21.0	25.5	11.2	8.0	6.0	4.5	4.0	5.0	3.3	3.4	9.19
127.....	4.6	2.8	3.5	2.7	3.5	1.6	2.1	1.3	1.9	1.8	2.58
128.....	8.7	3.1	2.0	1.8	3.5	1.6	0.8	1.0	0.9	1.0	2.44
129.....	13.0	5.1	5.3	4.0	6 0	5.6	2.9	2.3	2.3	2.6	4.91
130.....	.....	25.2	21.3	6.0	8.5	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.9	5.5	9.15
131.....	.....	10.3	10.1	26.0	7.5	10.7	9.0	10.0	1.0	8.1	10.30
132.....	.....	8.4	.0	3.5	9.0	4.1	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.2	4.13
133.....	.....	.....	18.3	19.0	3.0	2.7	2.8	4.0	3.7	3.5	7.12
134.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	19.0	14.1	11.0	5.0	8.2	7.6	.....
135.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40.0	26.5	17.0	16.0	8 1	9.0	.....
Pleasant Grove, Ind.....	8.0	6.1	4.3	6.0	7.0	5 0	03.0	3.0	3.5	3.9	4.98
St. Charles, Ind.	31.5	9.6	16.0	13.2	8.2	5.6	07.9	11.7	10.7	8.3	12.27

\* Joint.

## EARLY TAXES AND APPORTIONMENTS.

On August 11, 1856, the board of county commissioners levied the first school tax. The total valuation of real and personal property, and the general school tax for the first five years, were as follows:

Year.	Value of property.	Rate.	Total tax.
1856.....	\$ 867,588 00	2½ mills	\$2,168 98
1857.....	2,004,979 00	"	5,012 45
1858.....	1,388,192 00	"	3,470 48
1859.....	1,127,522 00	"	2,818 80
1860.....	1,507,731 00	"	3,769 32

There is no means of determining the special tax levy for that early period, as such taxes were collected by district clerks, and no records have been preserved. We know that schoolhouses were built and schools maintained, and there can be no doubt that the

pioneers often made great sacrifices in order that their children might not grow up in ignorance. The general tax, if collected, must have gone far toward paying the wages of teachers, who could be hired for one, or, at most, two dollars per week, and "board with the pupils."

The first apportionment was made by the commissioners on January 9, 1857. The following is copied from the early records :

School money received from fines.....	\$ 46 00
School money received from taxes.....	639 63
Total.....	685 63

This sum was distributed among the several districts, according to the number of persons between four and twenty-one. Each pupil received ninety cents, subject to the condition named below.

Tabular statement of the first apportionment, copied from the original, in which is shown the number of the district, the number of persons enumerated, the time school was taught, and the sum apportioned to each district, is herewith given :

No. of district.	No. of scholars.	Time school has been taught	Remarks.	Amount of money to district.
1	62	...	To be drawn upon proof of school having been taught according to law.	\$ 58 72
2	36	...	Same .....	33 72
3	53	...	Same .....	49 64
4	134	...	Same .....	125 51
5	28	16½	Subject to order of trustees to pay teacher .....	26 22
8	151	12	Same .....	141 43
12	33	13	Same .....	30 90
13	33	...	To be drawn upon proof of school having been taught according to law.	30 90
19	16	...	Same .....	14 98
23	26	...	Same .....	24 35
24	37	...	Same .....	34 66
31	21	...	Same .....	19 67
32	46	...	Same .....	43 09
34	19	...	Same .....	17 80
35	19	...	Same .....	17 80
36	18	...	Same .....	16 86
	732	...		685 63

In February following the same districts received \$729 51, making a total for the year of \$1,415 14.

#### SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

The school code of the Territory of Minnesota, passed at the second session of the legislative assembly, commencing January 1,

1851, made it the duty of the board of county commissioners for each county to divide such portion of their county as was inhabited into school districts.

At the second session of the board, which was held at Rochester, September 13, 1855, petitions having been received requesting action under the above law, two districts were set off.

No. 1, now generally known as the Coffin district, was formed of territory in the southwestern part of Elmira and the southeastern portion of Orion. It must have contained a goodly number of families, as there were sixty-two persons between four and twenty-one years of age who drew public money in January, 1857.

District No. 2 was made to include twenty-four sections, a small empire, having the thriving village of Oronoco for a metropolis. Thirty-six pupils were enumerated by the district clerk in December, 1856.

District No. 3 was formed on the first of October following. It included nearly nine sections in the southwestern part of the township of Pleasant Grove, and John Collins' claim seems to have been near the center of population. The district was altered in July, 1856, and that portion of the territory in which the village is now situated retained the original number. When the independent district was organized, a few years later, "No. 3" lost its identity.

No. 4 came next in order at the same session. The village of Marion was, and now is, near the geographical center of the district. It then ranked next to Rochester in the number of persons entitled to public money.

The year 1855 closed with only four districts formed in the county, and it is quite probable that some of this small number were not yet fully organized. Early in January, 1856, six more were added to the list. No. 5, now known as the Center Grove district, No. 6, known as Stone's Corners, or the Clason district, and No. 7, including territory in Dover and Quincy, in the Stevenson neighborhood, were formed on the 9th.

No. 8, including the village of Rochester, and the Hull district, No. 9, were formed on the 10th. At the close of the year the number of districts had reached thirty-five. The work of formation continued in this way until 1860, when it was taken from the commissioners and given to the town superintendent of schools. His authority was very brief, for the legislature of 1861 made every township in the state a school district, and required the town board



of supervisors to form sub-districts. This law was repealed the following winter, and districts have since been formed and altered by the county board.

The present school law provides for three classes of districts, as follows:

First,—Common school districts, including all districts not embraced in either of the two following classes.

Second,—Independent school districts, including districts organized under section 94 of the school code.

Third,—Special school districts, including all districts organized wholly or in part under any special law of the state.

The report of Supt. Spring for the year ending August 31, 1882, shows that the county has one hundred and thirty districts of the first class, one of the second and three of the third. The special districts are Rochester, Oronoco and Chatfield, joint. There are also seven joint common school districts, not included in the above.

The independent district of Pleasant Grove was organized June 5, 1865. It originally included the whole township. The people of the northern portion did not feel satisfied, and the legislature of 1867 enacted a law setting aside the action by which the district was established, and giving the people south of the river the privilege of voting on the question of reorganization. A majority favoring the measure, the district, which now includes about two-thirds of the territory of the township, was divided into six sub-districts, with a director in each who looks after local affairs. The board of directors has the entire control of the schools. It may also inspect the teachers employed or delegate that power to the county superintendent, and may appoint a district superintendent to visit the schools, report to the state superintendent, and perform such other duties as may be required by the board. Mrs. Lizzie Logan, who taught for many years, served in that capacity for some time. Hon. R. D. Hathaway and Richard Russell were among those who did most to organize the schools under this law. They hoped to establish a graded system with an excellent high school, where all the advanced pupils of the district could receive a good education. Their expectations have not been fully realized. There are six schoolhouses in the district, five of which are brick and one stone. The total value of these is put at \$4,000. The house at the Grove has two rooms, and the higher department of the school is now taught by W. R. Bennett; the lower, by Mary Holmes.

The town of Dover organized under the independent school law in the spring of 1866. There was so much friction in the working of the plan that the people besought the legislature to resolve the district into its "original elements." This was done in the winter of 1868, and the county commissioners subdivided the town, for the second time, in the spring of that year.

#### SCHOOL OFFICERS.

Under the law of 1851 the officers of each school district were three trustees and a clerk. They had the entire management of the school, and were required to inspect teachers whom they employed, as to "their moral character and ability to teach." The district clerk reported the number of persons between four and twenty-one, and the number of months school had been taught by a qualified instructor, to the board of county commissioners. This report was a very simple affair; the two items given above covering the whole ground. He was also required to collect all taxes assessed by the trustees, and pay over the same, less five per cent commission.

This law continued in force until 1860. The voters in each township were then required to elect a town superintendent of schools. It was made the duty of this officer to form districts, to examine teachers, to visit the schools twice each term, to enroll all persons of school age, and report the same, with other items, to the county auditor. The reports for that year are very unsatisfactory, and the law seems to have been almost a dead letter. The district officers were not set aside at this time; they were shorn of some of their authority, and were expected to co-operate with the superintendent.

As stated elsewhere, the legislature of 1861 made a radical change in the school law. What is known as the "township system" was adopted. Each town was made a district and the board of supervisors became its officers. They were required to divide their district into convenient sub-districts, to appoint a superintendent, and the general management of the schools was placed in their hands. Each sub-district chose its own officers, who were to superintend the erection of school buildings, have charge of furniture, apparatus and other local matters, subordinate to the town board. The superintendent was "to visit every school one day each term, to examine its condition and management." If found necessary, he was to direct the school exercises; he was also to

examine teachers and make such reports as were required by the state superintendent. The town clerk was to take an enumeration of all persons between five and twenty-one, and report the number to the auditor, together with such other school statistics as the law specified.

NAMES OF TOWN SUPERINTENDENTS FOR 1860 AND 1861.

Cascade,—Jesse Fairchild, P. N. Cobb, E. F. Steele.  
 Dover,—Alanson Richards, Simeon Harding.  
 Elmira,—R. G. Ketcham.  
 Eyota,—James L. Hodges, Emerson Hodges.  
 Farmington,—Edward Evans.  
 Haverhill,—Edward Palmer, R. H. Talbot, M. A. Burkank.  
 High Forest,—Thos. Armstrong.  
 Kalmar,—Benj. McDowell.  
 Marion,—Thomas W. Phelps.  
 New Haven,—John Kilroy, Russell Williams, H. Douglas.  
 Orion,—Richard S. Russell, J. T. Hancock.  
 Oronoco,—Hector Galloway, Wm. M. Pearce.  
 Pleasant Grove,—D. W. Prentice.  
 Quincy,—Jotham Holland, John C. Laird.  
 Rochester,—L. O. Benjamin.  
 Rock Dell,—W. A. Barnes, J. P. Mead.  
 Salem,—Sanford Niles.  
 Viola,—R. F. Cunningham.

The above list is not fully satisfactory. Some towns made no report, others have preserved no records, and the memory of the oldest inhabitant is sometimes sadly at fault.

This system of school management lasted but a single year. The law was repealed in the winter of 1862, but the superintendents were continued in office until September. The new law authorized the appointment of an examiner for each of the commissioner districts, who was to hold public examinations at stated periods, license teachers, visit schools, revoke certificates for cause, etc.

On the 2d of September, 1862, the county commissioners appointed the following persons :

District No. 1, O. O. Baldwin ; No. 2, Sanford Niles ; No. 3, Thos. W. Phelps ; No. 4, R. F. Cunningham ; No. 5, Russell Williams. These gentlemen entered upon their duties at once, and served for three years, when their term of office expired. O. E.

Wheeler then took the place of Mr. Cunningham, and Cyrus Curtis that of Mr. Phelps, the examiners for the other district being re-appointed.

In the winter of 1864 the commissioners of the several counties of the state were authorized to appoint a county superintendent of schools in lieu of district examiners. Several counties made that choice and came under the superintendency system during the year. Olmsted delayed until October 16, 1865, when Sanford Niles, of Salem, was appointed on trial. He held his position until January, 1877, being unanimously reappointed at the close of each term until January, 1876, when a majority of the commissioners chose M. G. Spring. The legislature of that year made the office elective in Olmsted and several other counties, and continued the old superintendents until after the November election. Mr. Spring received 2,294 votes, and Mr. Niles, 2,133. In the fall before Mr. Spring's first term closed he received a nomination from both parties and was re-elected without opposition. He ran on the democrat ticket in 1880, and was elected over Rev. G. L. M. Gjertson, republican, by a majority of 752. There were three candidates before the people in November, 1882. The vote stood as follows: Fayette L. Cook, republican, 1,743; Horace Witherstine, democrat, 903; M. G. Spring, independent, 667. Mr. Cook, having been elected, entered on the duties of his office early in December.

Since the township system was abolished each common-school district elects three trustees to manage its affairs. In 1876 a law was passed allowing women to vote for school officers, and they are now eligible to any office pertaining solely to schools. Several ladies have been elected each year, and twelve are now serving on school boards.

Our history may be divided into four periods. The first extended from 1855 to 1860, during which time there was no general supervision; the second covered the two years of supervision by town superintendents; the third continued from 1862 to October, 1865, when the work of supervision was performed by district examiners; the fourth, extending from 1865 to date, is the period of general supervision by a county superintendent.

#### EARLY TEACHERS AND SCHOOLS.

The early settlers of the county did not neglect the education of their children. So soon as their families were sheltered, and a few



of the common necessities of life were provided, they set about the work of establishing schools. As no districts were organized before the autumn of 1855, there could have been no public schools until that date. It is said that Alexander Duncan taught a private school in his own house, near J. L. Parks', northeast of Pleasant Grove, during the winter of 1854-5; and it is quite probable that others taught in the large settlements of the county the same winter.

1856. The exact number of schools for 1856 cannot be determined from official records. The law of that period required each district to have a three-months school in order to draw public money. The writer has inspected the sixteen reports of clerks for that year and finds but two allusions to schools. O. H. Page, of district No. 3, Pleasant Grove, says that one began on or about December 15, to continue three months; and J. S. Higbee, of district No. 12, in the southwestern part of the same town, certifies that "thirteen weeks of school were taught by a qualified teacher." The commissioners were, in some manner, satisfied that the Center Grove district had had sixteen weeks, although the clerk, whose business it was to report the fact, makes no mention of it. The village of Rochester received credit for twelve weeks. All other districts were to receive the apportionment "upon proof of school having been taught according to law." Whether such evidence was forthcoming the writer is unable to say.

We have private testimony to show that Susan Rucker taught in a small log schoolhouse near John Collins' during the winter of 1855-6; that H. E. Loomis taught in the Coffin district near Chatfield, and Andrew Beardsley in the Case district, Orion. Here our record ends for the winter. During the following summer Mary E. Walker taught in Rochester; Sarah Pearce in the village of Oronoco; Jennie Dumars, now the wife of C. C. Jones, of Minneapolis, in a small hut near Blair's Mill, Kalmar; Sarah J. Phelps, who taught for many years thereafter in the village of Marion; Ann Losinger, now the wife of Roswell Emeric, taught in a log shanty on Sec. 12, Kalmar, and in the chamber of John Lowry's house. This gives us eight schools for that year, besides the one of which Mr. Page speaks.

1857. There were thirty-one reports for this year. They now speak of events a quarter of a century past. From them the following record is made:

District.	Township.	Name of clerk.	Length of school.	Name of teacher.
1	Elmira .....	A. H. Stearns .....	3 months.	Phebe Hoag, Miss Stedman.
3	Pleasant Grove ..	J. G. Higbee .....	4 "	
4	Marion .....	Gustavus Wilcox ..	8 "	
5	New Haven .....	Nathan Bowman ..	6 "	
6	Oronoco .....	Anson K. Stone ..	3 "	
8	City .....	A. Smith .....	6 "	
11	Pleasant Grove ..	George Everts .....	3 "	
12	" "	Richard Eddy .....	5 "	
13	" "	B. W. Humes .....	3 "	
14	" "	F. L. Stevens .....	3 "	
17	Orion .....	S. A. Cole .....	4 "	Miss V. L. Deming.
19	Dover .....	J. W. Denton .....	2 weeks ..	
22	Marion .....	Jas. R. Case .....	3 months.	Eliza Sheeks.
23	High Forest .....	N. S. Howland .....	3 "	
30	Cascade .....	A. Lesuer .....	3 "	Andrew Beardsley.
34	Orion .....	L. B. Bliss .....	3 "	
58	Kalmar .....	H. C. Sheldon .....	3 "	

It appears that there were but seventeen schools taught during the year. Several of the above districts included territory in two townships, and either might have been named in such cases, instead of the one given. The names of the early teachers were not a matter of record, and they were seldom preserved. George Everts, of Pleasant Grove, volunteers some valuable information. He states that the "cost of schoolhouse, including stove and pipe and five per cent for clerk's fees, is \$557." "The amount of tax raised in the district is \$527." The "expense of teacher, \$54." "No. of scholars attending school, 25." Up to this date no other clerk has given the value of a schoolhouse or the amount of special taxes. It is an honorable record for that day, and he had a right to feel proud of it. Mr. L. B. Bliss states that Mr. Beardsley began his school in December, 1856; this will add another to the list for that year. Miss Eliza Sheeks is the daughter of Geo. C. Sheeks, of Dover. This was the first school in that town, and was kept in a room of Simeon Harding's log house, in which many of our old settlers have spent a night while on their way to Winona. But sixty-three and one-half months of school were taught that year.

1858. There were forty-nine schools, and the average length of the school year was a little over four months. Salem Corners, the village of Marion, the city of Rochester, and the Stone district in Oronoco and Cascade, each reported nine months. High Forest had seven, Pleasant Grove eight, Stewartville six and one-half, and

the Sally district, New Haven, six months. The aggregate length of the schools for the year was 204 months. The names of a few teachers have been handed down to us. Margaret Waldron, now wife of Nathan Phelps, taught in the Sinclair district, Kalmar, and Mr. J. C. Howard in the village of High Forest, in a house owned by Charles Stewart. Chas. C. Cornell kept the first public school in Salem in the winter of 1857-8, in a log house built by citizens near the residence of Z. Handerson. Ann Wilkins had a private school a year earlier, in a new frame house which stood north of the "Corners," on land owned by Darius Wilkins. Henrietta Carl, now wife of Wm. Bear, Eyota, kept the first school in Viola, in a pre-emption shanty near John Morrow's, and Mrs. E. A. Doty, of the same town, taught in her own house the latter part of the year. Angeline M. Stocking, wife of M. H. Ireland, was employed to teach in the Joseph Bear district, Eyota, and first schools were also in session in the Benj. Bear, Buck and Eckles neighborhoods. Quincy had two schools; one was kept by Elizabeth Kepner, daughter of M. Kepner, in her father's shanty. She began on the 7th of July and continued three months with ten pupils enrolled. The other was in the Kingsley district and continued four months, but the name of the teacher was not reported. T. W. McClosky taught the first school in the St. George district, Marion. Mrs. Helen Cornwell, wife of John Cornwell, taught in the village of Durango, in a small house put up by Wm. Brink. She received \$1.25 per week, and old settlers speak highly of her work.

1859. Seventy districts reported for that year, and fifty-seven schools were taught, with an aggregate length of 234 months. Rock Dell had her first school. It was kept by Rebecca Mead in the house of Mr. J. S. Humason. Every township in the county save Farmington, now had from one to six schools in operation. This township did not report a school until 1860, though some of her early settlers may have sent their children to the Fitch neighborhood, Haverhill, where one was opened as early as 1858; in fact that district included territory belonging to both townships. The first school in a district wholly within the borders of Farmington was taught during the summer of 1860, in a small log house near Farm Hill, by Kate Cowles, now wife of Hon. J. A. Leonard.

1860. The reports for 1860 cover only two-thirds of the year, from December 31 to August 31, and no report was made by the superintendent of Rochester, Oronoco, New Haven or Pleasant

Grove. If these documents were prepared they are not now on file in the auditor's office, and the thread of our history is partly broken. Blanks were furnished by the state for the first time, and a flood of light would have been thrown on many points of interest by careful answers to all the questions propounded in them. We are more fortunate when we reach the statistics for 1861, which were collected and reported by the several town clerks. We here catch a glimpse of the educational work in each township in that comparatively early period. The information given below cannot be gathered from any of the records of preceding years. Up to this date we are left in the dark as to the attendance at school, teachers' wages, value of school-houses, their number, and the actual outlay for school purposes.

*ABSTRACT of reports of town clerks for the year 1861, showing school population, enrollment, average attendance, number of schools, number of teachers, wages of teachers, number of schoolhouses and their value.*

	Persons between 5 and 21.	Total enrollment.	Average attend- ance.	No. of schools.	Length in mos.	Male teachers.	Female teachers.	Wages of males.	Wages of females.	Amount paid to teachers.	Log houses.	Frame houses.	Total value.	
Cascade .....	120	75	50	3	3	3	3	\$ 8 33	\$ 75 00	1 3	3	\$ 200 00		
Dover .....	135	101	65	4	3	4	4	14 84	166 00	1 3	3	829 00		
Elmira .....	210	125	80	5	3	5	5	9 60	.....	1 3	3	350 00		
Eyota .....	207	150	120	5	6	5	5	\$14 80	8 00	360 00	2 3	3	950 00	
Farmington .....	60	40	30	3	4	3	3	15 33	184 00	1 2	2	165 00		
Haverhill .....	161	92	60	5	3	5	5	12 00	270 00	1 3	3	850 00		
High Forest .....	265	100	55	2	3	1	2	12 00	7 00	78 00	2	1	150 00	
Kalmar .....	202	104	48	5	3	1	5	18 00	8 30	186 00	1 3	3	1300 00	
Marion .....	212	130	75	5	3	5	5	12 40	.....	1 3	3	500 00		
New Haven .....	181	103	90	4	3	4	4	10 40	168 00	1 3	3	643 00		
Orion .....	99	47	29	3	3	3	3	7 33	74 00	3 1	3	300 00		
Oronoco .....	184	128	95	6	3	7	7	6 66	.....	4	4	600 00		
Pleasant Grove ..	320	200	150	6	4	6	6	9 00	.....	3 3	3	755 00		
Quincy .....	207	120	70	4	3	4	4	8 00	102 00	1 3	3	725 00		
Rock Deli .....	124	25	17	2	3	2	2	11 50	69 00	1	1	150 00		
Rochester .....	133	50	35	2	3	2	2	10 00	60 00	1	1	100 00		
Salem .....	200	76	55	3	3	3	3	10 00	.....	4	4	250 00		
Viola .....	89	25	25	1	3	1	1	10 00	30 00	1 1	1	300 00		
City .....	302	224	153	4	7	1	3	50 00	30 00	560 00	.....	.....	.....	
													\$9117 00	

It will be seen that there were 3,411 persons enumerated, 2,145 of whom were enrolled as pupils; that the average attendance was



1,302, and the whole number of schools taught was seventy-two. Eight male and seventy-two female teachers were employed at wages which would seem low in 1883. There were twenty-three log and thirty-eight frame houses, valued at \$9,117.

This was a war year, and the number of male teachers was remarkably few; they were no doubt marching "on to Richmond."

#### SCHOOLHOUSES.

Many of the early schoolhouses were erected by voluntary contributions of labor and material. Men and boys turned out to draw logs from the woods and lumber from the mill or the more distant river. Shingles were sometimes split from a thrifty oak, and flooring hewed from the basswood. The raising was often an important event and long remembered by the young. When the walls were up the roof went on, the rough doors and curious windows found their places, the writing-board girdled the walls, the long, rough benches were arranged in rows, and the master's desk, so "fearfully and wonderfully made," was put in the most commanding position. In the construction of such houses, an axe, a saw and a hammer are the chief tools required, and any large boy or head of a pioneer family can use them.

Though the schoolhouses erected during the first decade of our history were often rude in their external appearance, though the furniture was home-made, though few blackboards hung on their walls, and apparatus was almost unknown, we have no word of criticism for their builders and owners. Far greater sacrifices were required than are now necessary to erect and furnish the more costly structures of these days.

But the schoolhouses of that period were not all of the style alluded to above. The citizens of Oronoco, Marion and Pleasant Grove erected neat and comfortable frames as early as the summer of 1856. In the summer of 1857, Center Grove and the Bagley district, Pleasant Grove township, built what were then considered first-class country schoolhouses.

The following extracts from the county superintendent's diary will serve to show the general character of the schoolhouses in 1866 and in 1876. They are arranged in opposite columns and relate to the same districts.

## FROM DIARY OF 1866.

Very poor frame house, with siding partly off and no latch to the door, the seats are uncomfortable and the stove door is out.

A very small frame hut for a school-house, and but one little blackboard.

Poor frame house, with the door off its hinges and no blackboards.

Fair frame house, with comfortable seats and two good blackboards.

Log house, poorly chinked, poor seats, and without blackboards.

## FROM DIARY OF 1876.

The district has erected a good stone schoolhouse. It is well seated and furnished with blackboards; value of house \$1,200.

Brick house, with patent desks and good blackboards; value \$1,000.

Frame house; value \$500.

Good frame house, well finished and well seated; cost \$1,400.

Frame house, with patent desks and ample blackboards; value \$1,000.

These extracts might be made to cover several pages. The improvement here noted was not in any sense exceptional, the whole county shared in it, and districts vied with each other in the good work.

*TABLE showing the number and value of schoolhouses at different dates.*

	Frame.	Log.	Stone.	Brick.	No. built.	Total.	Value of all.
1861 .....	38	23	..	..	..	61	\$9,117 00
1862 .....	39	28	1	..	..	68	8,463 00
1863 .....	43	30	1	..	..	74	10,293 00
1864 .....	47	21	2	..	..	70	12,720 00
1865 .....	49	25	3	..	..	77	14,630 00
1866 .....	60	26	4	..	..	90	29,245 00
1867 .....	75	25	6	..	..	103	73,931 00
1868 .....	82	20	8	1	..	111	94,910 00
1869 .....	90	20	9	1	12	121	119,805 00
1870 .....	95	18	9	2	12	125	130,732 00
1871 .....	96	17	10	3	13	127	139,739 00
1872 .....	96	15	10	4	7	128	150,301 00
1873 .....	95	14	10	7	7	128	154,036 00
1874 .....	100	10	10	9	8	132	156,620 00
1875 .....	105	8	10	12	..	135	175,625 00
1876 .....	105	5	10	12	..	137	186,350 00
1877 .....	108	4	10	17	..	141	196,225 00
1878 .....	108	3	10	19	..	141	195,510 00
1879 .....	108	3	10	20	..	141	195,160 00
1880 .....	108	3	10	20	..	141	196,500 00
1881 .....	106	3	11	21	4	141	197,650 00
1882 .....	105	1	12	22	7	140	198,825 00

The above estimates do not include the value of schoolhouse sites. It will be seen that the number of log schoolhouses diminished from thirty in 1863 to one in 1882. This house is in district No. 70, in the western part of Salem. The first stone schoolhouse

was erected in 1862, in the town of Rock Dell, in a Norwegian neighborhood; Carl Syverson was then district clerk. The first brick house was built in 1867, in the city of Rochester.

Average value of schoolhouses in 1861 was \$149; in 1871, \$1,100; in 1882, \$1,420; country schoolhouses 1882, \$789.

In 1865 there was no public schoolroom in the county seated with patent desks; ten years later there were eighty-one. At the present time a large proportion of the houses are well planned, and they are fairly provided with blackboards. Some are furnished with wall maps, globes, and other apparatus necessary to the best success of a school.

The village of Eyota has a fine brick building, erected in 1876 at a cost of \$9,000. It is 68×36 feet on the ground, and two stories high above the basement. There are two schoolrooms on each floor, which are well seated and furnished with apparatus suited to the grade of pupils. The basement has furnaces of the most approved manufacture. The entire edifice is finished in good style, and it is an ornament to the place.

Dover Center has an excellent brick house erected the same year as the above, at a cost of about \$5,000. It is 56×36 feet on the ground, and two stories high. There are four schoolrooms, each 30×23 feet, 12 feet in the clear. Three of the rooms are well seated, and supplied with a small amount of apparatus, valued at \$50. The basement is calculated for furnaces, but they are not yet in position. The building is a credit to the village. It stands on a gentle eminence and commands a fine view of the country around.

L. A. Dudley, principal of the Oronoco school, has kindly furnished the following:

"The Oronoco school-building is, including the basement, a three-story brick, picturesquely located on Moss Cliff, by the Zumbro. It was built in 1875, under plans drawn by L. Andrus, architect, at an expense of about \$5,000, including grounds and fixtures. The basement is used for wood, the first floor for schoolrooms, and the rooms above for halls, one of which is occupied by the Good Templars, the other by the Odd Fellows."

Byron has a two-story building with two rooms, well seated, and furnished with apparatus valued at \$50. It is a wooden structure and the entire cost was \$2,400.

Besides these, there are thirty-four schoolhouses in the rural districts, ranging in value from \$1,000 to \$1,500 each.

The following was written by the superintendent of schools at the termination of his first tour of visitation, early in the spring of 1865: "Of the seventy-seven schoolhouses in the county, fifty-six were found without privies and eleven without blackboards." In 1875, fifty-two houses were reported as having two privies, forty-four as having one, eighteen as having none, and eleven district clerks made no allusion to the matter.

#### SCHOOL-GROUNDS.

The total value of school-grounds is placed at \$12,500. The sites are, in most cases, well chosen, but very little has been done to improve them. Where trees have been planted they have usually been neglected, and have maintained a sickly existence in spite of growing weeds and browsing cattle. The trees, in beautiful natural groves, survive but a few years after the erection of a schoolhouse in their midst. They make convenient hitching-posts and are soon girdled. Few attempts have been made to plant evergreens or shrubbery, and no one seems to think that school-grounds may be made attractive at all seasons.

In passing through many neighborhoods, one sees evidences of taste around almost every dwelling, but when he reaches the school-house he is often reminded of Whittier's description of "The Old Burying-ground."

"Unshaded smites the summer sun,  
Unchecked the winter blast."

#### SCHOOL-APPARATUS.

Previous to the summer of 1866 there was very little school-apparatus in the county. In making eighty visits during the winter before, the superintendent saw but one set of wall-maps.

At a teachers' institute held in Morton Hall, in April of that year, the importance of supplying the schools with apparatus was duly considered, and a committee was appointed to make a report thereon for publication. Many districts purchased at that time, but teachers were not always competent to use what was furnished, and they sometimes allowed pupils to make footballs of globes, and marbles of dissected numeral-frames. People soon began to see that their money was poorly invested, and few purchases were made for several years. In the autumn of 1875 the clerks reported something over two thousand dollars invested in apparatus. The



recent report of superintendent Spring shows that 116 districts out of 134 are supplied with apparatus amounting in the aggregate to \$4,825. The writer has learned since the above was written that considerable of this amount is invested in costly charts of very little practical value to the districts.

#### TEXTBOOKS.

In the early schools pupils used such books as the parents brought from the older states. The town superintendents in their official reports for 1880, indicate that the following were in use:

Bullion's Grammar,	Thompson's Arithmetic,	Town's Readers,
Butler's "	Adam's "	McGuffey's "
Pinneo's "	Greenleaf's "	Sanders' "
Wells' "	Ray's "	Webster's Speller,
Covell's "	Davies' "	Sanders' "
Smith's "	Smith's "	Town's "
Clark's "	Morse's Geography,	
Green's "	Mitchell's "	
Brown's "	Monteith's "	
Kirkham's "	Fitch's "	
Weld's "	Colton's "	

The statutes of 1858 made it the duty of the superintendent of public instruction "to introduce and recommend such textbooks as he shall deem best adapted to the wants of the common schools." Hon. E. D. Neill selected a list and published it in 1860, but the legislature of 1861 enacted as follows: "The State Normal Board is hereby directed to select and prepare a list of books to be used in the common schools of the state for five years."

Under this law, Robinson's arithmetics, Parker and Watson's readers, Monteith's and McNally's geographies and Goodrich's history came into general use in the county. In 1868 a commission recommended the National readers, Robinson's arithmetics, Green's New Introduction to Grammar, Kerl's grammar, Cornell's geographies and Seavey's history. The necessary changes were then made, and general uniformity was secured for several years. After the war, schoolbooks were very high, and they were finally held at such exorbitant rates that some measure seemed necessary to relieve the people from what had become a burdensome tax. Hoping to break the "publishers' ring," as it was called, the legislature of 1872 passed an act which continued the books in use, under the law of 1868, on condition that the publishers would reduce their prices thirty per cent.

This law brought no relief, and the county superintendent concluded to recommend "shorter courses" published by the same houses. The series consisted of Robinson's Shorter Course in Arithmetic, Monteith's Shorter Course in Geography, the Educational Readers, Harvey's Grammar, Swinton's Speller and Barnes' History. The list was quite generally approved by teachers and the people, and continued in use until the State Textbook law of 1877 was passed. This "shorter course" saved hundreds of dollars to the people of the county, and greatly lessened the number of classes in each school. The State Series is now in use in all the country schools, and the annual expenditure for schoolbooks is but little over one-half what it was before the Merrill law, as it is termed, went into operation.

## SCHOOL POPULATION AND ATTENDANCE.

From the organization of the first districts in 1855 to 1861 the school population included all persons between four and twenty-one. From that date to 1876 the apportionment was based on the number between five and twenty-one. In 1875 the law was again changed, and the state school fund was distributed according to the number of pupils enrolled in school. The early apportionments were made by the county commissioners, and the school fund then consisted of money raised by a general tax of two and one-half mills on the dollar. As the first sale of school lands did not take place until the fall of 1862, no money was received from this source until 1863.

*TABLE showing the number of persons between the ages of four and twenty-one, for the years named.*

Year.	Persons 4 to 21.	Year.	Persons 5 to 21.
1856.....	732	1859.....	2,772
1857.....	1,468	1860.....	2,950
1858.....	2,469		

There is no record of enrollment covering this early period of our history. It was probably much less than the school population would indicate, as most of the districts were very large, and the places where the schools were kept too far away for the younger children.

*TABLE showing the number of persons between the ages of five and twenty-one ; the total enrollment ; the average daily attendance, and the per cent of average attendance to the enrollment.*

Year.	Persons 5 to 21.	Persons enrolled.	Average attendance.	Per cent. of attendance to enroll- ment.	Different schools.	Number of months' school.
1861.....	3,411	2,145	1,302	60.7	72	268
1862.....	3,480	2,528	1,594	63.0	76	344
1863.....	4,206	2,832	1,753	61.9	84	448
1864.....	4,570	3,212	2,047	63.7	89	507
1865.....	5,577	3,407	1,889	55.4	95	496
1866.....	6,014	3,412	1,533	44.9	100	437

The average attendance for the last two years of this period is quite low, and no cause can be given for it, unless there was some change in the blanks furnished district clerks, which caused them to make incorrect estimates. It requires considerable skill to obtain a correct average for a school year covering two or more terms of different length.

*TABLE showing the whole number of persons between the ages of five and twenty-one ; the enrollment in summer and winter ; the average attendance, and the per cent of average attendance to enrollment.*

Year.	Persons 5 to 21.	Enrolled in summer schools.	Average at- tendance.	Per cent. of av- erage attend- ance to enroll- ment.	Enrolled in winter schools.	Average at- tendance.	Per cent of av- erage attend- ance to enroll- ment.
1867.....	6,375	3,271	2,022	61.8	2,564	1,948	75.9
1868.....	6,813	3,374	2,088	61.8	3,040	2,012	66.2
1869.....	7,164	4,104	2,783	67.8	4,548	3,181	79.9
1870.....	7,148	4,506	2,934	65.1	4,580	3,440	75.1
1871.....	7,237	4,512	2,993	66.3	5,046	3,500	69.3
1872.....	7,223	4,434	2,871	64.7	5,066	3,809	75.1
1873.....	7,396	4,462	3,215	72.2	4,771	3,442	72.1
1874.....	7,572	4,313	3,004	79.6	4,935	3,663	74.2
1875.....	This item was not called for in blanks prepared by the State Su- perintend- ent.	4,532	3,204	70.6	4,909	3,810	77.0
1876.....		4,660	2,819	60.4	5,380	4,519	84.0
1877.....		4,792	3,018	62.9	5,568	4,732	85.0
1878.....		4,513	3,291	72.9	5,730	3,979	69.4
1879.....		4,218	3,176	75.2	5,480	3,719	67.8
1880.....		4,292	3,124	72.8	5,176	3,615	69.8
1881.....		4,168	2,957	70.9	4,915	3,419	69.7
1882.....		3,814	2,707	70.9	4,866	3,313	68.9

It will be noticed that the average attendance for the summer schools reached its highest point in 1880 ; for the winter, in 1877. The average depends on matters which are external to the schools ; when the wild strawberry crop is abundant, when potato-bugs are plentiful, when large fields of corn are planted, or the school term extends past the time for haying, pupils will be kept out to pick berries, to gather bugs, to plant and weed corn, to assist in haying, and the summer schools will be thinned. The blizzards of the present winter are sure to bring a low average, and the fine talk of the superintendent cannot change these figures.

*TABLE showing the number of different persons enrolled in school each year, and the average length of the school year in days.*

Year.	Different persons enrolled in School.	Length of school year in Days.	Year.	Different persons enrolled in school.	Length of school year in days.
1867.....	3,793	136	1875.....	5,935	139
1868.....	5,160	137	1876.....	6,549	134
1869.....	5,996	135	1877.....	6,674	135
1870.....	6,078	136	1878.....	6,602	133
1871.....	5,709	135	1879.....	6,242	133
1872.....	6,014	136	1880.....	5,966	132
1873.....	5,993	134	1881.....	5,744	133
1874.....	6,078	135	1882.....	5,569	130

A number of tables have been formed under the general heading "School Population and Attendance," for the reason that no one item of information can be continuously traced.

The school population has not been enumerated since 1875. The average attendance from 1860 to 1867 is given for the year ; from that date on it is given for the summer term and winter term.

The highest enrollment was reached in 1877 ; it then began to decline, until it now stands below that of 1869. The length of the school year is less by nine days than in 1875, and seven days less than in 1868. The decrease in enrollment, 1105 in five years, is to be attributed to "western fever," and to the establishment of private schools. There can be no doubt of the decrease of population in Olmsted county during the last half decade.

#### TEACHERS.

Teaching in the country schools is not yet regarded as a profession. No one now in the ranks expects to make it a life-work.



An examination of the records shows that five to six terms is the average experience of those who are employed in the schools of the county. What is true at this time has been true for many years, and will, no doubt, continue to be so. Six generations of teachers have come and gone during the last seventeen years. Thirty-nine hundred certificates have been issued to nearly, or quite, 2,000 different persons, and yet an autumn does not pass without a scarcity of teachers for the winter schools. Of those who attended the first institute in the fall of 1865, or the examinations following, Sarah J. Southwick, Marion L. Sloan, Bridget M. Kinney and Jane Stewart are the only persons who have taught within the past year. Of the large number licensed during 1876, less than a score are employed in the schoolroom the present winter. The average age of those who have attended institutes, for many years, is from nineteen to twenty; and the responsibility of teaching and governing the young rests upon those who are but little older. The following are among the reasons for this state of things:

1. Teaching in the district schools gives employment only one half of the time, and that is uncertain; as a consequence, no one can settle down to the business and depend on it for permanent support.

2. Our public lands, the thousand enterprises promising wealth, the learned professions, even the ordinary trades, offer better inducements to young people who look ahead and are ambitious.

3. So long as most of the work of teaching is performed by ladies of marriageable age, it is not proper to expect permanency. It is right that "change should be the order of nature," and the historian must state facts rather than suggest remedies.

*TABLE showing the number and sex of teachers employed each year; their average monthly compensation, and the total amount paid as teachers' wages.*

Year.	Male teachers.	Female teachers.	Wages, male.	Wages, female.	Total amount paid teachers.
1861....	8	72	\$16 75	\$12 00	\$2,382
1862....	26	80	17 84	8 40	3,931
1863....	32	100	18 53	10 22	4,485
1864....	40	107	22 17	12 05	6,519
1865....	32	111	26 84	14 68	7,845



E. A. KNOWLTON.



*TABLE showing the number of teachers in summer and winter schools; their monthly wages, and the amount paid teachers during each year.*

Year.	Summer.		Winter.		Wages, male.	Wages, female.	Whole amount paid teachers.
	Male teachers.	Female teachers.	Male teachers.	Female teachers.			
1866 ..	1	100	45	50	\$30 30	\$17 77	\$10,734 50
1867 ..	3	106	46	51	33 94	19 30	13,700 97
1868 ..	7	110	50	47	34 93	21 39	17,110 23
1869 ..	18	111	55	65	33 18	20 81	23,435 39
1870 ..	26	112	62	69	30 95	22 53	28,502 74
1871 ..	30	100	71	64	30 92	22 82	32,264 20
1872 ..	24	114	79	65	31 93	23 49	33,220 46
1873 ..	18	120	68	77	33 15	24 33	33,723 47
1874 ..	22	117	67	74	42 82	32 90	35,812 12
1875 ..	25	121	65	83	38 36	29 12	42,125 00
1876 ..	20	126	70	83	41 32	30 61	39,493 00
1877 ..	25	132	71	83	40 00	30 00	38,864 40
1878 ..	22	131	71	89	39 00	29 00	45,096 25
1879 ..	22	130	69	92	37 00	27 00	40,776 00
1880 ..	23	136	64	96	35 00	26 00	39,903 51
1881 ..	20	133	57	104	35 00	26 00	37,578 16
1882 ..	25	131	55	107	38 00	28 00	38,586 65

Total amount paid teachers, \$550,917.05.

The monthly salaries in the table first given do not include board, as the teachers in those days were required to "board around." The advantages of permanent homes for the instructors of their children were not fully realized by parents until some years later, say about 1870.

*TABLE showing the whole number of applications for licenses; the number rejected and the number and grade of certificates issued from November, 1865, to November, 1882.*

Year.	First grade.	Second grade.	Third grade.	Rejected.	No. of applications.	Year.	First grade.	Second grade.	Third grade.	Rejected.	No. of applications.
1865..	3	34	11	3	51	1875..	3	79	126	59	267
1866..	7	101	51	25	184	1876..	12	153	137	79	381
1867..	22	92	66	13	193	1877..	11	145	71	99	326
1868..	15	60	68	12	155	1878..	5	120	115	77	316
1869..	18	96	38	22	174	1879..	5	119	161	101	386
1870..	6	114	66	55	241	1880..	4	97	156	119	376
1871..	8	128	101	47	284	1881..	3	85	166	94	348
1872..	10	108	139	31	288	1882..	0	90	157	97	344
1873..	12	152	101	21	286						
1874..	7	143	103	46	299		150	1,916	1,833	1,000	4,899



In the above table the examinations of Supt. Niles extend from the beginning to 1877; those of Supt. Spring from the latter date to the close.

The reader will observe that the number of applications for certificates, from year to year, is greatly in excess of the number of teachers required. The column of totals on the right does not, however, represent the number of different persons applying, as some of those holding third-grade certificates are examined in the spring and also in the fall, their licenses lasting but six months.

Since the establishment of graded and other schools, where the young can have good opportunities for acquiring a fair education, and since "hired men" and "hired girls" were drawn from the families of foreigners, teaching has become about the only "genteel work" left for thrifty young people who would make an honest penny before settling down in the world. So it comes that the institutes and public examinations are thronged by those "downy of lip and chin," who are seeking certificates and places in the common schools. Every returning spring sees lady teachers, like beautiful butterflies, swarming around the learned school directors, and each recurring autumn, when the frosts begin to nip, finds these same directors searching the country over for the certificated young man, or for the last "Rose" of summer to teach the district school, — all the while wondering what has become of the "gay sisterhood" of teachers that sought him in house and field only six short months before.

#### TEACHERS' INSTITUTES.

No history of education, for Olmsted county, can be complete without a chapter devoted to Teachers' Institutes. These are, in fact, temporary normal schools brought to our own doors. In them hundreds of teachers have met some of the finest instructors in the state, witnessed their methods of teaching, and caught inspiration from their words. Here plans for work have been outlined and the broad field of school economy ranged over. It is in these that the county superintendent has kindly, and yet forcibly, pointed out the defects in teaching and management as he has observed them during periods of school visitation. It is probable that no other agency has contributed more to the advancement of our teachers, inasmuch as it has brought much needed information, renewed their zeal from year to year, and kept alive a spirit of progress, so essential to the best success.

Olmsted county stands above all others in the state in the number of her institutes and in the aggregate attendance of her teachers. Twenty-five were held during the administration of Mr. Niles, and eight during Mr. Spring's. The first county institute was organized at the old Baptist church, in Rochester, November 13, 1865; the second at Morton Hall, in April, 1866.

*TABLE showing the date of each institute; the place where it was held; its length in weeks, and the total enrollment.*

Year.	Month.	Place held.	No.	Length.	Enroll- ment.
1865..	November 13.....	Rochester.....	1	1	45
1866..	April 16.....	Rochester.....	2	2	112
1866..	November 12.....	Rochester.....	3	1	89
1867..	April 22.....	Rochester.....	4	1	95
1867..	October 25.....	Rochester.....	5	1	71
1868..	April 27.....	Rochester (State) ...	6	1	139
1868..	November 9.....	Rochester.....	7	1	80
1869..	March 30.....	Chatfield.....	8	$\frac{1}{2}$	44
1869..	April 6.....	High Forest.....	9	$\frac{1}{2}$	38
1869..	April 12.....	Eyota.....	10	1	61
1869..	November 1.....	Bochester.....	11	1	118
1870..	March 15.....	Oronoco.....	12	$\frac{1}{2}$	30
1870..	March 22.....	Marion.....	13	$\frac{1}{2}$	57
1870..	October 31.....	Rochester.....	14	1	115
1871..	March 20.....	Center Grove.....	15	1	40
1871..	March 22.....	Chatfield.....	16	$\frac{1}{2}$	45
1871..	October 9.....	Eyota.....	17	$\frac{1}{2}$	105
1872..	March 5.....	Rochester.....	18	1	145
1872..	October 28.....	Rochester.....	19	4	99
1873..	March 31.....	Rochester.....	20	1	169
1873..	October 6.....	Chatfield.....	21	3	60
1874..	March 21.....	Rochester.....	22	$\frac{1}{2}$	191
1875..	April 5.....	Eyota.....	23	4	115
1875..	October 18.....	Rochester.....	24	1	122
1876..	October 16.....	Rochester.....	25	1	147
1877..	March 12.....	Byron.....	26	1	50
1877..	March 19.....	High Forest.....	27	1	50
1877..	March 26.....	Dover Centre.....	28	1	75
1878..	March 18.....	Rochester.....	29	2	190
1879..	March 24.....	Rochester.....	30	2	287
1880..	March 15.....	Rochester.....	31	2	250
1881..	March 21.....	Rochester.....	32	1	254
1882..	March 20.....	Rochester.....	33	1	239

The above table shows over forty weeks of institute work during the administrations of Supts. Niles and Spring, and that the aggregate enrollment was 3,667.

The plan of holding local institutes was first tried in 1869, for the purpose of reaching the general public. Many citizens attended and the results were highly satisfactory.

Protracted institutes, or training schools, as they have been called, were organized by Supt. Niles, and proved very successful, the attendance being large and regular. The earlier institutes and two of the training schools were held independent of state aid, the superintendent assuming the responsibility of employing superior instructors and the teachers paying an assessment to cover all expenses.

#### COUNTY SUPERVISION.

The appointment of a county superintendent was one of the most important events in our educational history. Previous to October 16, 1865, there was no recognized leader in the school-work of the county. The standard of qualifications for teaching was low, and there was no general uniformity in the examinations. No one had the authority to call the teachers of the county together for a friendly interchange of ideas, or for the discussion of important questions. Each teacher had his own way and followed it, learning little by experience and nothing from those who were engaged in the same work. Isolation was the rule. The schools were not regularly visited even by district examiners, who were obliged to follow some other vocation for a living, and could give little time to supervision. There was no one who made it his business "to introduce to the notice of teachers and the people the best modes of instruction, the most approved plans of building and ventilating schoolhouses"; who "stimulated school officers to the discharge of their duties"; who, in short, created and kept alive a healthy public sentiment on educational questions.

The administration of Supt. Sanford Niles continued somewhat more than eleven years. During this period he traveled over the entire county twenty-two times, and made some 2,600 official visits to the schools. Twenty-five institutes were held, and 2,703 applications for certificates were considered. Besides this and much other routine work, as it may be called, a large number of articles were written for the county papers, in which almost every school question was discussed. During each winter, lectures were delivered in schoolhouses, halls and churches. Union schools, made up of teachers and classes from several districts, were held in many localities, for the purpose of giving teachers and parents an opportunity to witness the different modes of teaching and the progress which was being made. A library of professional works was purchased by subscription of teachers, in 1870, and many became

regular readers. (Some of these books are now in the office of Supt. Cook, where they may be consulted at any time.)

For several years, from fifty to one hundred subscribers were procured for the Minnesota "Teacher," then published by W. W. Paye, at St. Paul. In addition to these, most of the district clerks received a copy under a provision of law. In 1871 the advantages of "A Teachers' Guide and Course of Study for District Schools" were thoroughly discussed in conventions of district clerks, in teachers' institutes and in the county papers. Sixty districts adopted the proposed plan at their annual meeting in 1872, and several more not long after. Though it proved imperfect in some of its details, it was helpful to teachers, especially in the primary grades, and a similar scheme is being carried out with great success in several counties of the state. Through all these years of hard labor the superintendent was ably assisted by his wife, Priscilla M. Niles, whose extended experience as a teacher made her a helpful adviser, whose readiness with a pen enabled her to carry on the official correspondence and other office work in his absence.

All the results of these several methods of work, briefly alluded to above, cannot be made apparent in statistical tables. The reader may still ask, "Was there any real improvement in the schools of the county?" To answer this question, and to record historical facts, the following quotations are made from Supt. Niles' annual report for the year 1875.

"I now pass from the statistical portion of this review to matters which cannot be expressed by figures, and will first speak of the general intelligence of teachers.

"Even a cursory comparison of the papers made out by teachers attending the public examinations at the present time with those of 1865-6, which are still preserved, will satisfy anyone that a change for the better has taken place. The average grade of scholarship has been raised at least fifty per cent. Intelligent visitors, who have been in the habit of dropping into the institutes from year to year, have remarked that even the countenances of teachers show a higher degree of culture than formerly. Very few of these early pedagogues were readers of educational journals or other publications relating to the theory and practice of teaching. Now, hundreds of copies of valuable books designed for the study and the classroom are found in the hands of our teachers. The institute, the graded schools of the county, the state normal school, the colleges and



university, have afforded opportunities for culture. All of these agencies operating among us have done much toward raising the average standard of intelligence and rounding out the common school teacher in those noble qualities which go to make up true manhood.

“Much progress has been made in modes of teaching the different branches. Recalling the methods pursued in those early days, we find that few used the blackboard in teaching primary reading, that none adopted the ‘word,’ ‘phonetic’ and ‘sentence’ methods, now so successfully carried out by a large number of our instructors. Few, indeed, in those early times, had learned that it is possible to teach children to read in an easy, natural manner. Those monotonous and disagreeable tones heard by the school visitor in ‘ye olden time’ have long since died upon the ear. We now have scores of instructors who succeed in teaching young children to read with the naturalness of conversation. In advanced classes good reading no longer consists in the parrotlike pronunciation of words, but in the expression of every thought and emotion of the author. Pupils are now taught to observe that ‘golden rule’ for correct reading, ‘Understand and feel what you read.’

“Ten years ago there were very few classes in English grammar, and those were, usually, so poorly taught that pupils took no interest in the subject, and, in many cases, had little idea that it bore any relation to accurate speaking and writing. They were crammed with the definitions and rules of the textbooks without explanation or application, and when a boy had learned about the ‘relation’ which words hold to each other he scarcely knew whether it was one of blood, or marriage, or something else. Nearly every school in the county now has a large class in technical grammar, and hundreds of children are receiving oral instruction and daily drills in the use of language. We now begin at the root of the matter by basing our instruction on the principle that early and long-continued practice in speaking and writing are the chief means by which skill is attained. The generation of children now being educated in the public schools of the county will speak with an accuracy and write with a facility unknown to their parents, because of the early and continuous training which they are receiving under the direction of teachers who are keenly alive to the importance of this work, and who are becoming more familiar with the modes of instruction employed by the best teachers of our country.

“In descriptive geography new and better methods prevail. In conducting a recitation in this branch, the teacher once sat with his finger pointed at the question or answer found in the book, and not one item was omitted. Now the topical method is adopted ; useless details are left out ; the pupil is required to master his subject, and when the hour for recitation arrives he stands before his teacher and recites in his own language. Under the old pumping process the teacher labored hard at the handle, as we have done when the pump was out of order, and with most unsatisfactory results. Hundreds of unimportant names were once committed to memory only to be forgotten. The great facts of physical geography which relate to climate, soil and productions ; to agriculture, commerce, and to civilization itself, were almost entirely omitted ; while it may well be doubted whether there were a dozen teachers in the entire county who could give an intelligent explanation of the change of seasons or of other phenomena connected with mathematical geography, with which so many of our teachers are now familiar.

“The increased facilities for instruction in arithmetic have almost revolutionized the method of teaching this branch. The entire class is now called to the board, and the work of every pupil is brought under the eye of the instructor, while his ability to solve the more difficult problems and to explain the different operations is fully tested. As a result of this mode of teaching we have self-reliant pupils and a much more general understanding of this branch of study. Young pupils were formerly sent to school without slates. These are now regarded as indispensable, and exercises in adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing are given to the pupil in progressive tables. This work is continued through that period of school-life between five and ten years, or until the child is familiar with all the fundamental operations. These little ones who once had nothing to do, and whose hands were always in mischief, are now profitably employed, and years of precious time have already been saved.

“Writing received too little attention ten years ago. Scarcely a teacher of that period could sustain an examination in penmanship, and few pupils below the fourth reader were taught to write. Today there are hundreds of boys and girls in the first, second and third readers who can write a readable hand, and many of them can compose and pen a letter which would not disgrace people of a larger growth.

"The superintendent does not claim this wonderful progress as the result of his own humble efforts ; he would share the honor with hundreds of teachers who have rallied around him during these eventful years ; with every parent, rich or poor, who has contributed of his time or means to carry forward the glorious work."

The words quoted above show the progress which was made during the first ten years of the superintendency. Seven years of labor have already been added to these, and the reports which have been published from time to time show that the schools of the county are still in a prosperous condition.

M. G. Spring held the office of county superintendent of schools for nearly six years, during which period he called eight teachers' institutes, five of which were the largest known in the history of the state ; visited nearly every school twelve times ; examined over two thousand applicants for certificates, and made the customary reports. Aside from these and other ordinary duties, he endeavored to improve the literary qualifications of teachers by means of rigid examinations. He encouraged school officers to employ the same instructors for several successive terms, and succeeded so far in this most excellent undertaking that no less than fifty-five districts continued their teachers through the past school year. Weak districts were also encouraged to unite, and clerks were aided in making accurate financial reports. During the past summer a "Course of Study" was recommended, and circulars were issued for the purpose of bringing the matter before the public.

Supt. F. L. Cook, who entered on his duties in December last, has already published several valuable articles in the papers of the county, and is taking steps to bring the district schools under a thorough and practical course of study which he has prepared after consultation with the most experienced educators in the state. Several written examinations have been held by teachers, under his directions, which have been followed by oral examinations conducted by the superintendent in person. Where pupils have reached the required standard of scholarship, diplomas or certificates of graduation have been issued. Mr. Cook's work is now fairly begun and promises abundant success.

#### VILLAGE SCHOOLS.

Eyota has a school of three departments. Mr. A. C. Justice, a teacher of extended experience, has charge of the higher ; P. J. Mc-

Donald, of the intermediate, and Alice James, of the primary. Maria Congdon, now Mrs. Frank, taught the first school in the village in a small frame house just north of the railroad. The writer remembers several teachers who came later; among these were S. W. Graham, Kate Elliott, E. D. Dyar, B. H. Whitney, Edgar Holmes and Forest Henry. One, of whom the writer has heard words of praise, F. J. Hayden, died at his work, beloved and respected by all who knew him.

Besides the common English branches, the course of study as adopted by the school board includes higher arithmetic, algebra, geometry, physiology, civil government, physical geography and natural philosophy. The total number of different pupils enrolled the past year was 112; the average wages of male teacher was \$50; of females, \$35. The average rate of taxation for the past ten years was 12.07 mills. Under the present management the school is said to be in a prosperous condition. The people of the village of Eyota have always taken a deep interest in the education of their children, and have spared no pains to secure good school buildings and excellent teachers.

Dover Center has a school of two departments in charge of Horace Witherstine, who is one of the oldest and most successful teachers in the county. He is assisted by Hattie Speise. Fifteen pupils are in attendance from the surrounding country. The number of scholars entitled to apportionment during the year last past was 97; the average attendance was seventy-five in the winter and sixty in the summer; the average wages of the male teacher was \$60; of the female, \$28. The course of study includes the common and higher English branches. Average rate of special school tax was 10.56 mills. The school ranks among the best in the county.

Oronoco reports two departments in charge of Lucius A. Dudley and Mrs. Elizabeth Dudley. Mr. Dudley has given much time to professional training, and the school is pursuing a thorough and practical course of instruction. Number of pupils entitled to apportionment last year, 103; average attendance, winter, 67; summer, 70; teachers' wages, male, \$50; female, \$30; rate of special school tax for ten years averaged 13.48 mills. This school was, for several years, under the successful management of O. O. Whited and Mrs. Clara Whited.

*Byron.*—In 1882 the village of Byron enrolled ninety-nine resident and seventeen nonresident pupils in her school of two depart-



ments, which was in charge of George Martin, assisted by Jennie Works. The average attendance was fifty-four in the winter and thirty-six in the summer. Her average rate of taxation was 4.52 mills, and she paid her male instructor \$35 in winter and \$42 in summer. Her female teacher received \$30.

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## CHAPTER VIII.

### IN THE CITY OF ROCHESTER.

THE territory of district No. 8, on which the city of Rochester now stands, was set off by the board of county commissioners, of which the late Col. Jas. George was chairman and Dr. J. N. McLane, clerk, on January 10, 1856. A meeting of the citizens was held not long afterward, and the organization of the district was effected by the election of three trustees and a clerk, in conformity with the law of that day. No records of this board have been preserved, and the writer has not been able to learn the names of all its members. Samuel G. Whiting, J. P. Gurr, now of Claremont, and Robert Welch, who passed over the silent river a few years since, completes the list so far as remembered by the oldest inhabitants. Mr. Gurr thinks the first school meeting was held in the log school-house, to be spoken of hereafter.

The first school report on file in the auditor's office reads as follows:

I hereby certify that the number of persons over the age of four and under the age of twenty-one years, in school-district No. 8, is 151.

Rochester, January 8, 1857.

S. G. WHITING.

On the 4th of January, 1858, A. Smith, clerk, certifies that "six months school have been taught according to law, and there were 274 persons between four and twenty-one years residing in the district on the 31st of December, 1857."

Section 11 of the old city charter placed the schools under the control of the common council. The first meeting of this body was held on the 20th of August, 1858. Up to this date Rochester was nothing more than an ordinary district. The city fathers were not long in finding out the fact that school taxes were delinquent and the

district badly in debt. A committee which was appointed to confer with the old school-board reported that it would be necessary to levy a tax of a thousand dollars in addition to all possible collections of taxes then due, in order to liquidate the indebtedness of the district, then but three years old. The schools continued in charge of the council until the spring of 1864. An act to organize a board of education was approved March 4th of that year. It placed the educational affairs of the city in keeping of a board, to consist of one member from each ward and two from the city at large. The following list comprises the names of all persons elected from the date above.

## SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS.

1864.....	D. N. Mason.	1873.....	C. S. Younglove.
1864.....	Chas. Woodward.	1873.....	Wm. C. Rice.
1864.....	O. O. Baldwin.	1874.....	E. W. Cross.
1864.....	H. L. R. Jones.	1874.....	S. B. Clark.
1864.....	O. A. Hadley.	1875.....	W. A. Allen.
1865.....	J. B. Clark.	1875.....	Frank H. Allen.
1865.....	David Lesuer.	1876.....	Wm. C. Rice.
1865.....	Hector Galloway.	1876.....	Abram Harkins.
1866.....	O. P. Whitcomb.	1877.....	W. A. Allen.
1866.....	Horace Cook.	1877.....	S. B. Clark.
1867.....	C. H. Chadbourn.	1878.....	P. L. Dansingburg.
1867.....	W. W. Mayo.	1878.....	Horace Cook.
1868.....	O. P. Whitcomb.	1879.....	C. M. Start.
1868.....	J. B. Clark.	1879.....	G. L. M. Gjertson.
1869.....	Samuel J. Barlow.	1880.....	P. L. Dansingburg.
1869.....	Horace Cook.	1880.....	M. J. Daniels.
1870.....	E. W. Cross.	1881.....	T. L. Fishback.
1870.....	John Edgar.	1881.....	Frank H. Allen.
1871.....	C. S. Younglove.	1882.....	W. H. Dodge.
1871.....	J. P. Moulton.	1882.....	S. B. Howe.
1872.....	E. W. Cross.	1883.....	M. J. Daniels.
1872.....	John M. Cole.	1883.....	T. L. Fishback.

## EARLY SCHOOLS AND TEACHERS.

1856. To Samuel G. Whiting, a well known citizen of the county, who has always taken a deep interest in popular education, and to J. P. Gurr, an early merchant of Rochester, belong the honor of employing the first teacher, Mary E. Walker, whom they brought from Fillmore county as they were returning from Dubuque with a load of merchandise in the spring of 1856. Miss Walker taught twelve weeks in a log schoolhouse which stood just north of Line street, between Washington and Eagle, near the present residence of Mr. J. Bonham, in East Rochester, and hers was the only school for that year. She gave excellent satisfaction, and her

name is often mentioned in the recital of our early school history by old settlers.

1857. Miss Walker was employed for three months during the winter of 1856-7. This second school was kept in the same place as the first. It may be proper to state, right here, that Miss Walker became the wife of L. B. Joslyn, of Cascade, and died some years since.

Miss Phebe Hoag and Miss Stedman taught the district schools during the following summer. Mrs. Melissa Brown opened the first private school in her own house on Prospect street, north of Fifth, in the winter named above. It was patronized by some of the leading citizens. Miss Evelyn Ireland, now Mrs. Crosby, instructed a few pupils at her residence during the summer of 1857, and Mr. J. Burnham had a select school in the log schoolhouse in the autumn.

1858. Reuben Reynolds, the first male teacher in the public school, assisted by Martha P. Cowles, taught in what is now known as the old court-house, in the winter of 1857-8, and Jennie Dumars and Theresa Kimball, during the summer thereafter. In the autumn Mr. C. F. Anderson opened the "Rochester Literary and Classical School" in his own building, which is still standing near the Bradley House, on the corner of Eagle and College streets.

1859. In the winter of 1858-59 Mr. Dobbin taught in the "Rochester Democrat" building, and Edwin Ford, assisted by Martha Cowles, in the old court-house. The gentlemen received \$40 per month, and the lady \$25. In the summer a Miss Learned kept one branch of the public school in Judge Olds' barn; the other was kept by Mary M. Olds, now the wife of Wm. Goldsworthy, in a building on Broadway, which was surrounded by water during a freshet, and the term closed at the end of two months.

1860. C. F. Anderson was hired to teach the winter school in his own building. He received \$40 per month for his services and \$10 per month for his room. It was in connection with this school that the first literary society of Rochester was organized. Its name "Alpha-Beta" is highly suggestive of scholarship. Its first public meeting was held at Morton Hall, February 15. The following is copied from the original programme, kindly furnished by Mr. Anderson, who is now an attorney at Watertown, Dakota.

"Salutatory, T. Cowles; Declamation, Charles Bliss; Essay, Bridget M. Kinney; Declamation, Frank Woodard; Essay, Lizzie Sloan; Declamation, Sterling Cross; Discussion, A. Bamber, J.

Whitney ; Declamation, Fayette L. Cook ; Essay, Anna Whiting ; Oration, E. Denton ; Pantomime, T. & C. Bliss ; Declamation, W. W. Ireland ; Reading, The Rochester City Gem, Kittie Everest ; Declamation, J. Middleton ; Essay, Nellie Hoyt."

E. W. Wescott taught on College street the same winter, and weekly spelling-schools for old and young were all the rage, Miss Mary Chase may also be mentioned in this connection.

The summer school in the first ward was taught by Abbie M. Gifford, at \$22 per month ; in the second ward, by Miss Walker, at the same wages.

Select schools were opened by Mrs. C. C. Cornell, Mrs. E. L. Merriam and Miss Gifford.

1861. The public school teachers for this year were Mr. A. M. Stedman, Mrs. C. O. Forrest, Jennie Dumars, Abbie Gifford, Mary J. Coe and Nellie Hoyt.

1862. O. O. Baldwine, Mrs. O. O. Baldwin, Miss Coe, Miss Ozmun and Miss Fling were employed.

But this record must close. More space cannot be allowed for the names of the many public school teachers of later days, nor for those connected with private schools. Things went on in about the same manner until the completion of the central school building in 1868. Up to that date the schools were practically ungraded. It could not well be otherwise. The accommodations were very limited ; teachers were usually employed by the term ; there was no well defined course of study ; there was no superintendent to lay out the work and see that it was performed. It is true that there was talk of thorough grading as early as 1861 ; but what teacher can accomplish such a work when there are from seventy to one hundred and thirty pupils to each room, and he clothed with a "little brief authority?" There can be no doubt of the skill and executive ability of many of those early instructors, but something more was needed to make good schools, and it was this which Rochester lacked for too many years.

#### PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

Nearly forty private schools have been started in the city ; there are some thirty-five on the list before us, and several have already been mentioned, which are not included. A large portion of these closed quietly after a term of three months ; others, promising great things, expired in their own "dying light" at the end of a year. All, in some degree, helped on the educational work of the city and



country, and a few offered advantages which were sorely needed, and were highly appreciated. Some of the more prominent of these schools will now be noticed.

*Rochester Academy.*—P. C. Compton fitted up what is now known as the Porter House, and opened a school of higher grade November 25, 1861. Teachers were engaged to instruct in "painting, music, drawing, and other branches usually taught in first-class high schools." Lectures were given from time to time by D. N. Mason, R. Reynolds, O. P. Stearns, and others. Teachers' meetings were also held for discussing important questions.

O. S. Porter purchased this institution in August, 1863, and continued the school one year. His course of study included the "common branches, sciences, classics and liberal arts; a specialty was made of "higher mathematics."

*Rochester Seminary for Young Ladies.*—Mrs. H. C. Green, principal; Mrs. S. L. Baker, vice-principal. Opened September 7, 1863, in building known as the Bell property, near the jail. "Higher English, French, German, music, drawing, needlework, waxwork," etc., were taught.

*Rochester Seminary.*—Rev. J. L. Farber, principal. First academic term opened at Smith's Hall, April 5, 1864. All pupils were put upon a "systematic and thorough course of culture." Advertised by the Rev. W. A. Chambers, M. E. Church; B. B. Herbert, assisted by Laura West, took charge of the school in the fall of 1865, when it was removed to the basement of the Methodist Church, then just completed.

Steps were taken to incorporate the institution and place it on a firm financial basis, but the school was soon discontinued for the want of the support which its friends hoped to secure.

*Rochester Female Institute.*—Mrs. M. R. Andrews and Mrs. M. M. Rice, principals. Opened in Allen's block in September, 1864, but was soon removed to rooms specially fitted up for its use in the basement of the Presbyterian church. Incorporated in 1866, Rev. Sheldon Jackson, president; Jacob Voorhees, secretary. The course of study included the solid and ornamental branches, and the school was well patronized for several years.

*Pike's Normal School.*—First opened as a select school for advanced pupils in Morton Hall, May 7, 1866. Removed to Hickox's block September 5th, following. F. A. Pike, principal, assisted by Mrs. Clara A. Pike, Mr. M. G. Spring and Miss Anna

Whiting. The school was well sustained for several terms. It was in connection with this institution that Mr. Spring performed his first educational work in the state.

M. G. Spring opened a select school in the autumn of 1874, which was continued with good success until he was elected county superintendent in the fall of 1876.

*Rochester Training School.*—Mr. Sanford Niles, Mrs. Priscilla M. Niles and Mr. Horace Witherstine opened this school in Heaney's block, January 2, 1877. Mr. Witherstine sold his interest to Mr. and Mrs. Niles the following spring, and the school was continued under their management. In the fall of 1878 the name was changed to Rochester English and Classical School. The course of study included the common and higher English branches and languages. A teachers' class was a special feature. From three to five instructors were employed. The enrollment for the first term was 113; the average enrollment per term for six years was 105, and the highest, 152.

In August, 1882, Mr. E. W. Young purchased the furniture of the school and established the

*Rochester Seminary and Normal School.*—This institution has three courses of study,—academic, college preparatory and business course, music and art department. Faculty: E. W. Young, A.B.; Marie Antoinette Roberts; O. O. Whited; Mrs. Clara S. Whited; Mrs. Mary H. Coon. The fall term opened September 13, 1882. Incorporated. Rev. R. J. Stafford, president; E. W. Young, secretary.

*Darling's Business College and Phonographic Institute*, established in 1879.—Two departments, preparatory and commercial. D. Darling and William Brainard, principals. Enrollment for the current year, 125.

*Academy of Our Lady of Lourdes.*—A fine brick edifice 58×86 feet, three stories high, not including basement. It is finished in good style, and cost \$24,000; furniture, \$8,000; erected in 1877. The parochial school building is a wooden structure, two stories high, 80×32 feet on the ground. The cost, including furniture, was \$9,000. Eight teachers are employed, and the attendance of pupils in the academy is about 20; in the day school, 150.

#### SCHOOLHOUSES.

Preparations for building the first schoolhouse were made in the autumn of 1855, some time before the territory included in the

district was set off by the commissioners. Logs were cut, and drawn to some point west of the river where, Mr. S. G. Whiting informs the writer, the body of the structure was partly rolled up. But the settlers concluded that a locality in what is now known as East Rochester would be more convenient, and removed the logs to a place indicated on a preceding page, and erected the building, which was completed in the spring of 1856. Though constructed by private enterprise, the house, in some manner, became the property of the district, and was finally sold to Z. Cowles, on the authority of the city council, late in 1858. It was used for schools, religious meetings and political gatherings. An editorial in the "Rochester Post," 1876, attributes these words to an old settler who was looking at a picture of the schoolhouse, drawn by Mrs. C. F. Anderson for the Centennial Exposition.

"This rustic building, little thought of in those days, was the birthplace of our city schools; of the Methodist and Congregational churches of Rochester. Within these humble walls were laid the foundation of all our Sabbath schools. Here was planned and carried out our first Sabbath school and Fourth of July celebration. Here was organized the first lodge of Good Templars, and from its door moved the first funeral procession.

In the autumn of 1858 this log house had ceased to be used for school purposes, and from that time on to the summer of 1868 the city depended wholly upon rented rooms. During this period, with a school population ranging from 350 to 1,132, poorly ventilated, badly seated and overcrowded schoolrooms were the rule, to which there were comparatively few exceptions. Many editorials and articles from correspondents were published from time to time, in which attention was called to the matter and immediate action urged. As early as 1860 Mayor Hurlbut recommended the erection of a stone or brick building to meet the pressing needs of the schools. The war broke out the year following, and all other questions were overshadowed by the one great issue before the country. On the organization of the board of education in 1864 the question again became prominent. In 1866 the board recommended the erection of two primary schoolhouses of brick or stone, one in East Rochester, and one north of the railroad, each to accommodate one hundred pupils; the purchase of suitable grounds for a central building, and the erection thereon of a capacious edifice, to be completed as soon as practicable. At a special election held in

Smith & Danies' office, Friday, May 26, 1865, \$3,000 was voted to purchase sites and erect schoolhouses. In August following, the board postponed building on account of insufficient funds. The legislature of 1866 authorized the city to vote a tax of \$25,000 for building purposes. At the annual election in April of the same year, but nine votes were cast against this levy.

The site upon which the Central school-building stands was purchased by O. P. Whitcomb, acting under authority of the board, in April, 1866. It includes an entire block, containing two and one-half acres, bounded north by Fourth street, east by Franklin, south by Zumbro and west by Prospect. The grounds are nicely graded, and surrounded by double rows of thrifty maples. Immediately across Zumbro street stand the Congregational and Presbyterian churches; to the west is the Episcopal church; to the north, the Baptist; to the east, the Universalist.

#### CENTRAL BUILDING.\*

The ground-plans of the Central or High School building were drawn by Horace Cook, of this city, who had sole supervision of the work. The plans of the elevation were prepared by A. M. Radcliff, architect, St. Paul. The extreme size of the building is, including projections, 94×87 feet, and the extreme height from water-table to apex of the highest tower, 127 feet. Including the basement the edifice is five stories high. The basement walls are of stone and the other stories of brick; the height of basement is 10 feet; the first two stories above, 13 feet; the next, 14 feet; the fifth, 16 feet. On the south front is a tower 21 feet square at the base and 127 high; on the north is a tower 16 feet square and 100 feet high; on the east and west sides are two turrets, each having a base of 5 feet 8 inches, and extending upward 94 feet. The structure is covered by a mansard roof and the domes with tin. There are 112 windows in the main building and 24 in the towers. Over 300 cords of stone were used in the building, including basement walls, window caps and sills, water-tables and steps. Most of the stone came from quarries near the city, the balance from Mantorville. Some 700,000 brick and nearly 300,000 feet of lumber were used. The brick were manufactured in yards in or near the city.

\* See "Rochester Post," May 22, 1869, to which the writer is indebted for many facts, and some of the language here used.



The approach to the entrance on each of the four sides of the building is by cut-stone steps; the descent to the basement is also of like material and construction. The north door and the south open into a hall ten feet wide and running the whole length of the building. At either end of this hall, in the towers, are the stairs, six feet passage, with platform landings and continuous rail. All the rooms on each floor above are reached by these stairs.

There are fourteen schoolrooms, each  $32 \times 24$  feet, and adjoining each room is a wardrobe extending its whole length and furnished with hooks and shelves. The rooms are furnished with improved seats and desks, and with ample blackboards. In the north and south projections, opposite the stairs, are rooms twelve feet square, one of which is used as the superintendent's office, the others for recitations. In the northwest and northeast corners of the basement are two rooms used mainly by pupils remaining at the noon recess.

The building is heated by furnaces, and the foul air is carried off by flues in the turrets. In the southern tower, at an elevation of one hundred feet, is an observatory, commanding a fine view of city and country. The bell hangs in the north tower. It was cast at Mencilly Bell Foundry, Troy, New York, and has upon it, in raised letters, the "Public School of the City of Rochester, A.D. 1868." The weight of the bell is 1,551 pounds.

The fifth story is finished in one room  $75 \times 55$  feet and 16 feet high. It is well seated, and is designed for public examinations and lectures.

Excavation for the basement commenced on the 28th of March, 1867, but a suspension followed and work was not resumed until the 5th of July. The laying of brick began on the 22d of August, and a small portion of this work was not completed until the following spring. Inside work went on during most of the winter of 1867-8. On May 25, 1868, eight rooms were occupied, and on November 4, six more were ready for schools. The hall was not finished until a later period.

At an election held in June, 1875, 127 votes were cast for, and 14 against, building schoolhouses in the first and third wards. The job was let to H. E. Horton, July 6, and he finished both buildings, and they were accepted by the board December 15, following. They are wooden structures, two stories high, and each has two well-furnished schoolrooms.

The plan for the building in southwest Rochester was drawn by H. E. Horton. The contract was awarded to L. Andrus, March 5, 1877. The structure is of wood and contains four rooms, two upon each floor.

All of these houses are now in good condition, and no other city in the state has better school accommodations; no other, of the same population, has so large a sum "at interest" in school-buildings. It is an investment which pays, and our central building may stand to honor its projectors when every child now within its walls has ceased to walk the earth.

## COST OF SCHOOLHOUSES AND SITES.

Central building, furnaces, desks, settees included.....	\$75,000
Southwest building, furniture included.....	5,500
East side " " ".....	3,800
Third ward " " ".....	3,800
Site of central building.....	6,000
" west ".....	1,300
" east ".....	1,500
" north ".....	700
Total cost of houses, sites, etc.....	\$97,600

## SCHOOL POPULATION.

*TABLE showing the school population from 1856 to 1867 inclusive.*

Year.	Persons between 4 and 21 years.	Year.	Persons 5 to 21 years.
1856.....	151	1861.....	302
1857.....	274	1862.....	396
1858.....	345	1863.....	465
1859.....	396	1864.....	517
1860.....	405	1865.....	754
.....		1866.....	922
.....		1867.....	1,036

In 1861-2 there were several causes which lessened, or seem to have lessened, the number of persons of school age. One of these was the change in the minimum age from four to five; the other was the opening of the war, which called many youthful volunteers away to the battlefields.

## POPULATION AND SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.

*TABLE showing the number of persons between the ages of five and twenty-one; the number of different persons enrolled; the enrollment in winter and summer; the average daily attendance in each, etc.*

Year.	Persons between 5 and 21.	No. different persons enrolled.	Enrolled in summer schools.	Average attendance, summer.	Enrolled in winter schools.	Average attendance, winter.	Per cent of average attendance to enrollment, sum.	Per cent of average attendance to enrollment, win.
1868 .....	1,138	550						
1869 .....	1,220	922	569	538	699	666	94.5	95.2
1870 .....	1,217	905	764	545	807	690	71.3	85.5
1871 .....	1,181	1,015	830	650	936	691	78.3	73.8
1872 .....	1,202	1,020	900	850	930	884	94.4	95.0
1873 .....	1,360	945	800	750	870	740	93.7	85.0
1874 .....	1,281	1,100	850	760	850	760	89.4	89.4
1875 .....	1,381	1,174	900	850	991	950	94.4	95.8
1876 .....		1,132	948	761	1,012	750	80.2	74.1
1877 .....		1,150	919	795	1,046	830	96.5	88.9
1878 .....		1,148	840	736	1,073	727	87.6	67.7
1879 .....		996	835	659	923	695	78.9	75.2
1880 .....		1,007	801	665	938	680	83.0	72.4
1881 .....		1,020	1,022	656	881	674	64.1	75.3
1882 .....		1,012	798	611	998	684	76.5	68.5

The number of persons between five and twenty-one years has not been taken since 1875, and there is no means of determining whether the school population has increased or diminished. The number of different persons enrolled in school has fallen off about fourteen per cent; but it must be remembered that private schools are now drawing many pupils who would be numbered under the old law and credited to the city. On the contrary, the state high school, now in operation, helps to make up this loss by enrolling pupils from abroad.

## TEACHERS AND THEIR WAGES.

The average number of pupils enrolled for the five years from 1872 to 1878, as shown by the table which follows, was 1,100; the average number of teachers was 16 $\frac{2}{3}$ , and the total amount paid as wages was \$43,567.80.

The average number of pupils enrolled for the five years just past, was 1,036; the average number of teachers, 19 $\frac{1}{3}$ , and the total amount paid as wages was \$45,660.75. The average monthly compensation of female teachers has been somewhat reduced as the number has increased.

*TABLE showing the length of school year; number and sex of teachers; average monthly compensation; whole amount paid teachers during the year.*

Year.	Length of school.	Male teachers.	Monthly wages.	Female teachers.	Average monthly salary.	Total amt paid teachers.
1868.....				9	\$39 00	\$1,085 00
1869.....	9	1	\$150 00	12	31 25	5,587 25
1870.....	10	1	150 00	14	32 00	7,708 75
1871.....	10	1	160 00	14	32 00	9,000 00
1872.....	10	1	160 00	14	36 14	9,900 00
1873.....	10	1	160 00	14	42 00	8,766 30
1874.....	10	1	160 00	15	50 00	8,910 00
1875.....	10	1	160 00	15	38 79	7,418 50
1876.....	10	1	160 00	17	50 55	9,328 00
1877.....	10	1	160 00	17	48 00	9,145 00
1878.....	10	1	160 00	19	48 00	12,000 00
1879.....	10	1	120 00	18	42 00	8,579 50
1880.....	10	1	120 00	18	40 00	8,352 50
1881.....	10	2	{ 60 00 } { 140 00 }	18	37 00	8,173 75
1882.....	10	2	{ 60 00 } { 160 00 }	19	35 00	8,555 00

Total amount paid teachers.....\$122,509 55

## TAXATION.

*TABLE showing the rate of taxation for school purposes; the total levy for each year; the receipts from the permanent school fund, and the aggregate collections from 1863 to 1882 inclusive.*

Year.	Rate of gener'l tax. Mills.	General tax. Total levy.	Rate of special tax. Mills.	Special tax. Total levy.	Receipts from school fund.
1863.....	2	\$453 06			\$ 106 95
1864.....	2	723 43	4.3	\$ 1,555 37	558 36
1865.....	2	1,131 10	9.5	5,372 72	557 96
1866.....	2	1,404 25	5.0	3,510 63	829 80
1867.....	2	1,687 80	15.5	16,878 08	932 40
1868.....	2	1,994 85	20.0	19,948 50	1,149 38
1869.....	2	2,283 18	20.0	22,831 80	1,403 00
1870.....	2	2,037 94	15.0	15,284 55	1,496 91
1871.....	2	2,078 73	20.0	20,787 36	1,240 05
1872.....	2	2,006 18	13.0	13,040 17	1,153 92
1873.....	2	2,085 98	12.0	12,515 90	1,305 60
1874.....	2	3,273 79	10.0	16,368 99	1,255 38
1875.....	1	1,663 42	9.0	14,970 83	1,256 71
1876.....	1	2,135 17	9.0	19,216 57	1,109 36
1877.....	1	2,020 86	10.0	20,208 60	1,506 50
1878.....	1	2,073 37	5.3	10,988 87	1,549 80
1879.....	1	2,106 84	6.6	13,905 14	1,424 28
1880.....	1	1,897 67	3.1	5,882 79	1,510 50
1881.....	1	1,869 51	4.8	8,973 65	1,530 00
1882.....	1	1,764 67	5.0	8,823 35	1,518 00
		\$36,691 80		\$251,063 87	\$23,394 86



## RECAPITULATION.

Special school-tax levy for twenty years.....	\$251,063 87
General " " " " .....	36,691 80
Total .....	287,755 67
Deduct difference between levy and net collections .....	16,806 65
Net collections for twenty years.....	270,949 02
Receipts from permanent school fund .....	23,394 86
Total receipts from all sources .....	294,343 88
Average annual receipts .....	14,717 19
Average rate of special taxation, mills.....	9 85

It will be remembered that \$96,600 of the total receipts was expended for schoolhouses, sites, furniture, etc. The balance of \$197,743.88 was expended for ordinary school purposes. The table also shows that a little over ninety-two per cent of the funds for the support of schools comes through taxation.

## LATER SCHOOLS.

The first term of school in the Central building commenced May 25, 1868. Miss M. C. Bateman, of Lansing, Michigan, was chosen principal. The school was divided into departments, as follows: five primary, two intermediate and one grammar. The average attendance was about 460.

Prof. W. P. Hood, of Red Wing, was elected superintendent August 17, 1868, at a salary of \$1,500, and Miss Isabelle Cutler, of Lexington, Massachusetts, teacher of the high school, at \$700. The length of the school-year was fixed at forty weeks. A course of study was prepared by Prof. Hood, and adopted by the board of education March 8, 1869. It included the common and higher English branches, French, German, Latin and Greek. During the fall term of 1868 there was one class in algebra, one in geometry, one in physiology, one in general history, one in botany, one in French and one in Latin. Rules and regulations were adopted by the board and the school was brought under rigid discipline. Thirteen teachers were employed in the departments below the high school. Prof. Hood resigned his position September 18, 1869. On the 18th of November following, the board gave Miss Cutler formal assurance of its confidence in her and increased her salary to one thousand dollars. She had entire charge of the school for some time.

Prof. C. C. Curtiss, now of the Minneapolis Business College,

was elected to the position of superintendent December 7, 1869, and tendered his resignation June 17, 1870.

Prof. C. H. Roberts, of Geneva, Ohio, was chosen superintendent June 26, 1870, and took charge of the schools September 5. He received a salary of \$1,500 for the first year, which was increased to \$1,600 at the end of the year, and it was held at this rate until the close of his term of service in 1878. Miss Cutler was continued as teacher of the high school at the salary named above.

Prof. Roberts prepared a course of study covering twelve years. The schools were organized in three general departments, each having four grades: primary grades D, C, B, A; grammar grades D, C, B, A; high school grades D, C, B, A. The work in the lower departments was carefully outlined for all the teachers and much oral instruction was required. The following will give an idea of the scope of the work for one year in the D primary and D grammar grades: Conversations, reading, spelling, writing, numbers, language, moral instruction, physical exercises and singing, drawing, music.

Grammar school, D grade, one year: Reading, spelling, writing, drawing, objects, music, language, arithmetic, geography.

D class, high school, one year: Latin, algebra, United States constitution, English literature, physiology, botany.

C class, one year: Latin and rhetoric, geometry, natural philosophy, English literature, bookkeeping.

B class, one year: Latin, Greek, German, French, history, trigonometry, chemistry, English literature, science of government.

A class, one year: Latin, Greek, German, French, history, mental philosophy, geology, English literature, science.

The number of pupils who graduated each year during the superintendency of Prof Roberts was as follows: Class of '71, six; of '72, two; of '73, nine; of '74, four; of '75, nine; of '76, seven; of '77, ten; of '78, eleven.

Miss Edith Arnold was elected teacher of the high school, August 11, 1871, at a salary of \$800; Miss M. Louise Benny, August 13, 1873, at a salary of \$600; Mrs. Marie Antoinette Roberts, June 12, 1874. She was continued in this position until the close of the school year in 1879, with a salary of \$750 a year for the last three years.

Prof. J. K. Davis, of Ann Arbor, Michigan, was elected superintendent May 6, 1878, and continued in service two years, at a salary of \$1,200. Miss Emma Gilbert was elected teacher of the

high school May 19, 1879, and served one year, at a salary of \$60 per month.

Prof. Davis shortened the course of study in the grammar department to three years, and the entire course to eleven years.

In September, 1879, the school board opened an ungraded department, which is still continued in the central building.

The State high school system was adopted the same year. In consideration of \$400, to be paid each year by the state, the city school board agreed to support a department whose course of study lands the student in the freshman class of the state university. This department is free to all pupils from city or country who comply with the conditions prescribed by the State high school board.

Prof. Davis graduated two classes of seven pupils each.

Prof. H. O. Durkee, now superintendent, was elected July 19, 1880, at a salary of \$1,400, but is receiving \$1,600 for the present school year. Miss Ella Baker, of Iowa, served as teacher of the high school for the year commencing in September, 1880. Prof. F. L. Cook was also employed.

The present assistants in the high school and eighth grade are Miss Florence C. Nichols, John D. Pope, Miss Adelle McKinley and Miss Hattie Nichols. Twenty teachers, besides the superintendent, are employed in the central and ward buildings. Of this number, two are in the third ward, two in the first, east of the river, and three in the south, west division, where a grammar school was opened in 1880. "In the summer of 1880 one year was added to the time devoted to the work in the high school. Pupils completing the course are now prepared to enter the freshman class of any college or university. \* \* \* No pupil receives credit for any subject unless he stands eighty per cent or higher, in a thorough examination on the entire subject; and no one graduates on time spent in the school, but only on completing every subject in the course taken, or the full equivalent of every subject \* \* \* Although the examinations for promotion have been more thorough and comprehensive, the number in the eighth grade and high school has increased, each year, for the last three, as indicated, 105, 119, 126." One pupil graduated in June, 1881; three pupils in June, 1882; and the present graduating class contains four members.

As early as March 16, 1868, when the central building was nearly ready for occupancy, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by the school board:

*"Resolved, that we employ none in the public schools of this city expect normal school graduates, or those having had long experience as teachers in graded schools."*

Though the school authorities have not always adhered to this rule, the city has had her full share of able teachers from our own normal schools, and from other institutions of learning near and far. The writer regrets that the limits of this paper will not allow him to name many instructors in city and country who are well worthy of such recognition. Once or twice he has taken his pen for this purpose; but where shall the record begin?—where shall it close? To criticise is not the province of the author of these pages. Whatever people may say of the extravagance of the board in erecting an elegant and substantial central building,—whatever the shortcomings of the graded system,—Rochester should remember that her school buildings and public schools are her chief glory today; through these she is best known throughout the state and the northwest.

#### CONCLUSION.

In preparing the foregoing pages the writer has endeavored to give facts rather than fancies. He might have penned a brief outline of our school history, interlarding it with laughable anecdotes rather than statistical tables, and saved himself many days of hard labor in examining hundreds of early school reports, in searching musty records, in consulting auditors' books, in reading the proceedings of school boards, in seeking information from old settlers and every other available source.

He is deeply conscious of the many imperfections of this work, but he has the satisfaction of feeling that he has done his best with the material at hand, and hopes he has presented the facts he has gathered in an acceptable manner.

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## CHAPTER IX.

### GEOLOGY OF OLMSTED COUNTY.\*

*Drainage.*—Streams are plentiful and their fall moderate. The water reaches the Mississippi by three paths. The central, northern and western parts of the county are drained by the Zumbro river.

\* This article is from N. H. Winchell's "Geological Survey" in 1876, and is changed as little as possible to adapt it to the present date.



This stream runs north into Wabasha county, when it turns east and makes its way to the Mississippi. It comes into Rochester from the southwest, and within the city limits Bear creek, from the southeast, Silver creek, from the east, and Cascade creek, from the west, empty into it. Near the north line of the county it receives quite a stream resulting from the union of the middle and north forks of the Zumbro. The townships of the southern tier are drained by Root river, which, very sinuous, takes a generally east course for the Mississippi. It has in the county no affluents of any size, except at Chatfield, where a stream of small size comes in from the north. On the eastern border of the county some branches of the small Whitewater river reach this county.

There are no lakes in the county. There are a few small ponds which in no sense deserve the name of lakes. Streams which sink into the ground and disappear are said to be not rare. The United States surveyor's plat of Farmington township lays down one such stream. Another is laid down on other maps in Elmira township, and another in Haverhill and Viola townships. From reports in various parts of the county, it seems they prevail where either the Lower or Upper (Galena) Magnesian limestone occurs — a state of things to be expected, as will be noted when these formations are discussed.

Living springs of cool, pure water of the best quality are not rare. They are by far most common on the south or west sides of bluffs where the green clay of the lower part of the Trenton Limestone comes to the surface. This clay is impervious to water. The formations dip slightly toward the southwest. The layer of clay forms a nearly level floor of which the southern and western sides are lower than the others. The water will consequently come out on these sides. The springs are frequently of large size. The phenomenon of a row of springs some distance up the sides of a bluff, while the base of the bluff furnishes no springs, is by no means a rare one. Spongy earth is apt to collect about the mouth of the spring. When filled with water, it is soft and very miry. In former times, when the road crossed such spots, bad mudholes were found. They have now been generally tapped and drained, though they are still occasionally met on the less-traveled roads.

*Water-powers.* Olmsted county is more than usually favored with good water-powers. This results from the large number of streams, the swiftness of their currents and the favorable nature of the banks and bottom.

The *Surface* is much diversified and the natural scenery very pleasing to the eye. The surface is generally rolling. Along the streams bluffs are found sometimes nearly two hundred feet high. These bluffs are usually steep, level-topped, and characteristic of the geological formation which makes them. They are most common in the central and eastern parts of the county. Rochester lies in a valley, with bluffs all around it. It climbs the bluff toward the west. Dover Center, Marion and Chatfield lie in similar valleys. Curious isolated mounds are common, especially along the east side of the Zumbro in the southwest corner of Farmington and the adjacent corners of neighboring townships. They are also common in Elmira. Toward the west the surface is much more level. Much of Rock Dell township is like the prairies just south and west of it. The name of the township is derived from two or three rocky dells in its northern part.

The following notes were taken from the plats of the government survey of the county. These plats were not dated, but according to the State Auditor's records the county was surveyed in 1854 and 1855. They were found in the office of the county register, where access was given to them with the utmost courtesy :

*Farmington.* (T. 108 N., 13 W.) This was a prairie township. From an isolated bluff in Sec. 19 extended a stream which sank in about the middle of Sec. 28. The magnetic variation varied from  $8^{\circ} 24'$  to  $9^{\circ} 51'$ . Several marshes of some size were recorded.

*Oronoco.* (T. 108 N., 14 W.) No marshes worth noting are shown on this plat. Wood accompanies the streams, varying from one to three miles in extent. The Zumbro on this and other early maps is called the Embarrass R. The bluffs along the river are sometimes marked 100 feet. The magnetic variation varied from  $8^{\circ} 24'$  to  $9^{\circ} 55'$ .

*New Haven.* (T. 108 N., 15 W.) This township is represented as quite uneven, and bluffs occur along the streams. Woods follow the streams, and two or three aspen thickets are marked. The magnetic variation was  $8^{\circ} 55'$  to  $9^{\circ} 54'$ .

*Quincy.* (T. 107 N., 11 W.) This was mostly prairie when surveyed. There was some wood along streams, and a few scattering thickets. A single small marsh was marked. Bluffs accompany the streams. Magnetic variation,  $8^{\circ} 27'$  to  $9^{\circ} 51'$ .

*Viola.* (T. 107 N., 12 W.) Several small marshes were marked. A range of prairie extended east and west through the middle.

Prairie also occupied the northeast corner. Bluffs accompany the streams here also. Magnetic variation,  $8^{\circ} 26'$  to  $9^{\circ} 34'$ .

*Haverhill.* (T. 107 N., 13 W.) About half the town is prairie. Woods extend, as usual, along the streams, which are accompanied by bluffs. Several marshes, none of great size, are platted. Magnetic variation,  $8^{\circ}$  to  $9^{\circ} 41'$ .

*Cascade.* (T. 107 N., 14 W.) There are no marshes laid down in this township. It is nearly all prairie land, brush accompanying the streams generally, and a few scattering thickets being marked. The bluffs along the river are sometimes quite elevated for the county. Magnetic variation,  $81^{\circ} 3'$  to  $9^{\circ} 33'$ .

*Kalmar.* (T. 107 N., 15 W.) Rather heavy timber occupies the northwestern part. An isolated grove is marked in Secs. 13 and 14. A single marsh is laid down in Secs. 11 and 12. The banks of the fork of the Zumbro are bluffy. Magnetic variation,  $8^{\circ} 36'$  to  $9^{\circ} 35'$ .

*Dover.* (T. 106 N., 11 W.) The township is an essentially prairie one, though many isolated thickets are marked, and there is some wood along a branch of the Whitewater river. The marshes are few and insignificant. The magnetic variation is from  $8^{\circ} 40'$  to  $9^{\circ} 50'$ .

*Eyota.* (T. 106 N., 12 W.) A broad belt of timber, about three miles wide, crosses the township diagonally from the northwest corner. The magnetic variation,  $9^{\circ}$  to  $10^{\circ} 40'$ .

*Marion.* (T. 106 N., 13 W.) Several marshes are given. The land is wooded along the streams, leaving about one-third of the township in prairie. Magnetic variation,  $8^{\circ} 40'$  to  $10^{\circ}$ .

*Rochester.* (T. 106 N., 14 W.) The township is mostly brushy, with scattering timber. Bluffs accompany the streams. Several marshes are laid down. Magnetic variation,  $8^{\circ} 15'$  to  $9^{\circ} 50'$ .

*Salem.* (T. 106 N., 15 W.) Two marshes of about 120 acres each, and one of about 160 acres, are given. About two-thirds are marked as wooded, but the prairie portion comes at the north, where the streams are most abundant. The streams are not marked as bluffy. Magnetic variation,  $8^{\circ} 47'$  to  $9^{\circ} 38'$ .

*Elmira.* (T. 105 N., 11 W.) This township was about half wooded. An independent drainage is marked in Secs. 8, 9, 16, 17. Bluffy mounds not on streams are marked. Magnetic variation,  $8^{\circ} 45'$  to  $10^{\circ} 55'$ .

*Orion.* (T. 105 N., 12 W.) is somewhat wooded along streams. In Secs. 10 and 15 a stream is represented as sinking. The banks

of Root river are bluffy. A small lake is given in Secs. 35 and 36. Magnetic variation,  $9^{\circ} 20'$  to  $12^{\circ} 12'$ .

*Pleasant Grove.* (T. 105 N., 13 W.) A large marsh of about 120 acres is laid down in the southern part of the township. A band of woods about three miles wide accompanies the river, the banks of which are bluffy. Magnetic variation,  $8^{\circ} 25'$  to  $10^{\circ} 57'$ .

*High Forest.* (T. 105 N., 14 W., with a range of sections in T. 104 N., 14 W.) A large marsh—about 320 acres—is laid down in Secs. 30 and 31. The township is wooded along the streams, but is about half prairie. Magnetic variation,  $6^{\circ} 45'$  to  $9^{\circ} 55'$ .

*Rock Dell.* (T. 105 N., 15 W., with a range of sections in T. 104 N., 15 W.) A large marsh—320 acres—in the northwestern part. The land along the streams is little wooded. The banks of the streams in the northern part are bluffy; in the southern, not. Magnetic variation,  $7^{\circ} 40'$  to  $9^{\circ} 18'$ .

There seems to be no easily recognizable order in the magnetic variation for different parts of the county. The extremes were  $6^{\circ} 45'$  and  $12^{\circ} 12'$ , in High Forest and Orion respectively. Both these towns are on the south side and not far apart.

## ELEVATIONS.

	Above the Mississippi river at low water at Wabasha.	Above the ocean.
1 Head of East Indian creek, 5 miles N.E. of Plainview (Wabasha county) .....	534	1,154
2 Street of Plainview (Wabasha county) .....	518	1,138
3 Elgin (Wabasha county) .....	390	1,010
4 Near center of Sec. 14, Haverhill .....	634	1,254
5 S.W. corner Sec. 24, Haverhill (rock seen some feet above) .....	570	1,190
6 Base of Sugar-Loaf, Sec. 31 and 32, Haverhill .....	390	1,010
7 College street bridge, Rochester .....	340	960
8 Surface of water beneath .....	325	945
9 Summit of Lone Mound, Sec. 11, Farmington, within 10 feet of Plainview level, viz. ....	518	1,138
10 S.E. corner Sec. 10, High Forest .....	667	1,287
11 Low water at High Forest village .....	570	1,190
12 Sec. 29, T. 104 N., 15 W., Mower county half mile south John Rowley's house .....	757	1,377
13 Dr. Thornhill's farm, 4 miles east Brownsdale, in Mower county .....	730	1,350
14 S. Minn. R. R. at Brownsdale (Mower county) .....	632	1,252
15 St. Paul and Milwaukee R. R. track at Austin (Mower county) .....	560	1,180
16 Chatfield, about .....	267	887
17 Pleasant Grove, about .....	667	1,287
18 Creek near the schoolhouse in Sec. 15, Cascade, about .....	365	985
19 N.W. corner Sec. 10, Cascade .....	500	1,120
20 Quarter stake, Secs. 33 and 34, Oronoco .....	490	1,110
21 Center stake, Sec. 21, Oronoco .....	465	1,085
22 Surface of river at Oronoco .....	315	935



Lone Mound (elevation 9) is about 150 feet above the surrounding country.

Elevation 10 gives the summit of the watershed between the Zumbro and Root rivers. From Sec. 5, Orion to Sec. 21, Rock Dell, the elevation of this watershed does not vary ten feet from the figures given. By comparing the figures in the table it will be seen that this watershed includes the highest land in the county of which we have any record of observations. A general elevation toward the south and southwest is visible. This elevation reaches its maximum in the counties south, which include in their borders the most elevated land in the state. On comparing the geological map of the county and the table of elevations, a striking relation between the altitude and geological formation is rendered manifest. This will be more particularly referred to under the heads of the individual formations.

*Timber.* Heavy timber is found along the large streams, though it is pretty well cut out now. Aspen and brush thickets are common everywhere. The following trees, shrubs and twining plants were observed while driving through the county.

The trees found in this county are : basswood, sugar maple, red maple, soft maple, box elder, white ash, slippery elm, corky elm, white elm, black walnut, butternut, hickory, burr-oak, white-oak, jack-oak, yellow-oak, etc., paper-birch, American aspen, coarsely toothed aspen, cottonwood, balm of Gilead, silver poplar, Lombardy poplar, willows, white pine, locust.

The shrubs are : Prickly ash, smooth sumac, poison ivy, false indigo, lead plant, wild plum, wild red cherry, chokecherry, wild black cherry, nine bark, common meadow-sweet, wild rose, wild red raspberry, wild black raspberry, common blackberry, black torn, blackthorn, chokeberry, American mountain ash, European mountain ash, red-osier dogwood, paniced dogwood, wolfberry, sheepberry, cranberry tree, hazel, low birch, speckled alder, juniper.

The vines are : Virgin's bower, frost grape, Virginia creeper, shrubby bitter-sweet, hop.

#### THE GEOLOGICAL STRUCTURE.

The outcrops of rock are numerous throughout the county. It lies just at the edge of the system of deeply eroded valleys, extending westward from the Mississippi. To the east of it are the deep ravines which cut through the high bluffs at the base of which the

great river lies. The beds of these ravines gradually rise in receding from the Mississippi, and it is in Olmsted county that they rise to near the surface of the surrounding country. To the west and southwest of the county lies the great accumulation of drift, which grows deeper and deeper as one passes westward. This material thins out over Olmsted. In the southwest corner it is thick enough to conceal entirely the rock features below. Eastward it appears only in thin outliers, marking the ragged edge of depotism, or in patches and masses which are remnants left by subsequent erosion. In order to see to the best advantage the changes in the drift, features of erosion, and stratification, one must cross the county obliquely. There is the least drift, generally speaking, in the northeast corner, and the most in the southwest corner. On the other hand, the southeast and northwest corners are much alike in the very feature in which the other two corners differ. In a rough way the lines of change cross the county diagonally in a southeasterly and northwesterly direction. This is due to two facts which may have some relation with each other. In the first place, the Great River in the vicinity of the county runs in a generally southeast direction. The erosion-valleys extending from it would tend to take a direction perpendicular to it, and the lines of equal depth of erosion would tend to be parallel to it. Again, the dip of the rocks in this county is slightly southwest. The edges of the strata as presented on the surface would tend to be in lines perpendicular to this direction.

There are no signs of noteworthy upheaval, depression or other changes in the relations of the strata to each other in this county, as in the whole of this part of the state the strata are conformable. The peculiar structure of the bluffs enables one to trace some of the strata at a distance. As far as the eye can follow them their planes occupy the same position with reference to the horizon. The only exception to this is the Cretaceous. Its rather doubtful patches in the county lie in nearly a horizontal plane, and across the edges of the strata below.

The strata of the rocks other than Cretaceous do not lie in a horizontal plane. The dip is very slight, and in this county is toward the southwest. Toward the northwest corner the line of dip alters a little, and is more southerly. Comparison of altitudes and strata over a larger portion of the state has convinced Mr. W. D. Hurlbut that the dip here is ten feet to the mile southwest.

The stratigraphy of this fine county is easy to read in most cases.

The form of the bluffs, the line of springs making a definite part of the Trenton, the differing solubility of the rock and the consequent occurrence of sinkholes, caves, etc., in one formation and not in another, the lithological character of the rocks, notably distinct in some of the formations, and the gradual and regular dip of the strata, which, when taken with the erosion, enables one to predict with much certainty the rock over which he is standing, even when it is hidden from view—all these enable one to read the stratigraphical enigma of the county with little trouble.

The formations found in the county are not numerous. The Potsdam sandstone is said to be found in the beds of the Zumbro and Whitewater rivers, about where they leave the county. It has not been seen by me, however, and the sandstone is probably only one of the lower sandstone layers of the Lower Magnesian. The latter formation, the St. Peter sandstone, the Trenton limestone and the galena, are found here, the first and last probably only represented by a part of their entire thickness. A little Cretaceous was found.

The area of the formation of the Lower Magnesian limestone in the county is as follows: It follows the larger streams, beginning on them when well in the county, and broadening out until it leaves the county with them. It appears in the beds of the branches of the Zumbro well up in Rochester, Marion, Haverhill and Cascade townships. Rochester lies on a floor formed by the upper surface of this formation. The valley of Rochester city is entirely shut in by bluffs, except where the Zumbro passes out to the north and along a geological valley, now dry, to the northwest. The lower magnesian valley of Rochester city is somewhat crab-shaped, and is formed by the meeting of the various streams which make up this branch of the Zumbro. Cascade township is about half Lower Magnesian, the remaining surface being occupied by spurs and islands of the formations above, one of these islands being quite large. Oronoco township is almost exclusively Lower Magnesian. Farmington is of the Lower Magnesian floor, except the southern edge and some outliers of Trenton and St. Peter. In New Haven the middle fork of the Zumbro soon rises to the Trenton, while the north fork lies on the Magnesian, until it passes into the next county west. A large portion of Quincy is Lower Magnesian, as is a little of the northeast of Viola. An arm of this formation appears at the surface in the bed of the river, passing nearly through Dover from east to



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west. Elmira is also floored with Lower Magnesian for the most part, as is a small portion of Orion. The village of Dover lies in a Lower Magnesian valley, something like that of Rochester city. The same is true of Chatfield. Something more than twenty per cent of the county has a floor of Lower Magnesian.

The lithological characters of the formation here partake of its general characters in Minnesota as described by the director of the survey in his first annual report (for 1872, pp. 81-83). It varies from a compact, fine magnesian limestone to a pure, friable, saccharine white sandstone. It is frequently in irregular layers, which are not continuous for any distance. Sometimes these layers are thin and continuous; sometimes they are thick and cleave naturally into massive blocks. The rock is often brecciated, occasionally massive. Broken cherty layers, irregular silicious pockets, mottled sandstone, oolitic limestone, vesicular limestone, sparry cavities of considerable size, are all found in this variable yet usually easily recognized rock.

This rock holds its form well, and thus produces characteristic *surface features*. When worn deeply into by erosion it presents bold cliffs and craggy, rounded hills. When not covered thickly by drift, it makes a poor surface for agriculture, as may be seen in some parts of Oronoco. It is nearly barren, and is covered with scant grass, with hazel and scrub-oak (in this case dwarf *Quercus macrocarpa*) or with small paper birch, and other wood-growth not large enough to be of importance economically. When this floor is covered by drift, as in the beautiful prairie township of Farmington, the soil may be unsurpassed. The most of this township is devoted to wheat, and at the proper season it seems to be one continuous wheat-field. A *section* of this formation is seen at Quincy Mills.

## DESCENDING SECTION AT QUINCY, OLMSTED COUNTY.

Feet.

No. 1. Dolomitic limestone; quite arenaceous, falling out in huge masses which are rough, distorted in their crude bedding, and unmanageable as a quarry stone, showing much calc-spar. Limestone and sandstone are mingled with occasional strips of light-green shale. In general the face presents the appearance of an alternation of horizontal layers of thin and more shaly beds, with heavy, coarse and rough limestone beds. Some green shale layers alternate with dark, umber-colored (ochreous) shale, neither being more than two inches thick. They are tortuous and not continuous. This phase appears like the tops of the bluffs at Winona, but is probably at a considerably higher horizon	30
No. 2. Persistent, white sandstone, or granular quartzite, seen	10
Total exposure	40

The following section was taken at the limekiln of James Barnett, on Sec. 8, Oronoco, just northeast of the village:

	Feet.	Inches.
Calciferous sandstone, much broken, in thin layers, buff.....	14	
Compact little broken calciferous sandstone, light buff.....	2	
Sandstone (mostly saccharine) in layers.....	4	3
Aluminous limestone, in thin layers, light buff.....	1	7
Dark sandstone with numerous blue spots.....	1	8
Arenaceous vesicular dolomite.....	3	6
Like second above.....	4	
Like second above, but more irregularly bedded.....	1	
Vesicular, sparry, irregularly bedded dolomite.....	4	
Total as far as seen .....	37	8

The above section begins at the top. No fossils could be found. The lowest layer (last described) is employed for making lime. The lime is light buff, slow, and contains considerable cement.

This lime is of considerable *economical value*. The lime is good notwithstanding its slowness, and the cement in it only increases its value for many purposes.

This rock does not furnish much good building material in this county. It is not of even bedding and homogeneous texture generally. Pieces have been employed at Rochester for window-caps and water-tables. These pieces are found only in the uppermost layers. No general use is made of them.

#### THE ST. PETER SANDSTONE.

The *area* of this rock is difficult to represent on a map. It is so friable that it will not endure erosion when left to itself. It is only when it is capped by the lower layers of the Trenton that it successfully resists the attacks of water. By itself, uncovered by other formations, it occupies but little space. It juts out beneath the cap of limestone only a few feet or rods. From a projecting spur of limestone it may extend farther, as is illustrated in the city of Rochester. A spur of Trenton comes in from the west and ends near the city limits. The sandstone, however, can be struck in sinking wells almost anywhere in the western portion of the city. Occasionally where erosion was incomplete an outlier of crumbling sandstone can be seen, not capped by limestone. Such an outlier may be found in or near southwest Farmington. This must happen but rarely, and the outliers can attain but small size. Streams of considerable size usually leap from the Trenton to the Lower Magnesian, the intervening St. Peter sandstone having been washed completely away at an early period. Sometimes, however, streams of small

size remain in a bed of St. Peter sandstone, in which case the valley is sandy, covered with small oaks, and worth little for agriculture. This is seen in the valleys of Bear creek and its branches.

The surface features caused by the presence of this sandstone are interesting, and have already been referred to. As the incoherency of this formation deprives it of the power of resisting erosive forces, it is usually carried away cleanly wherever exposed. The consequence is a precipitous descent from the Trenton to the Lower Magnesian. This appears in lines of remarkable, level bluffs. The height of these bluffs is usually the thickness of the formation, with fifteen or more feet of limestone on the top. These bluffs are especially noticeable around Rochester. To the east, their top is reached by a rugged ascent; to the west, by gradual dip of the strata. The erosive forces have left many small and isolated bluffs, which can be properly described under this head, though the lower layers of Trenton limestone assist in their formation. They appear as rugged mounds rising from the Magnesian floor, and form a striking feature in the aspect of the neighborhood. They are most abundant in southwest Farmington and in Elmira. A few are seen along the railroad, just east of Rochester. Perhaps the most remarkable is "Sugar-Loaf Mound," about two miles east of the city and close to the railroad. Its shape and relative proportions are those of a sugar-loaf. Another remarkable one is "Lone Mound," of Sec. 11, Farmington. It is about three miles from the line of bluffs south. Two or three miles northwest are two similar mounds, called "Twin Mounds." They are in Wabasha county.

The thickness of the St. Peter was ascertained with an aneroid barometer, near Rochester. The upper layers of the Lower Magnesian were found on Bear creek, near the woolen mills. The upper surface of the St. Peter was ascertained as carefully as might be near Whitcomb's quarry, and near Jenkins' quarry. Three comparisons were made. The proper allowance having been made for dip and atmospheric change, the value of 111 feet was obtained for the thickness of this formation.

The *lithological character* of the St. Peter is uniform and simple. It is a rather coarse, white, friable sandstone, pure white, except where contaminated by foreign substances or percolations from the formation above. It contains no fossils, so far as can be seen in this county.

This formation is useful in several ways. When with a tight



Magnesian floor, it holds water, and furnishes a good supply to wells. It is sometimes excavated where it comes out on the face of a bluff. Excellent cellars, dry and of uniform temperature, are thus formed which are used especially for the preservation of vegetables. It supplies an inexhaustible amount of pure white sand, round-angular, and excellent for mortar or glassmaking.

#### THE TRENTON LIMESTONE.

As this formation lies next above the St. Peter, and as the dip is southwest, we should expect to find it just behind the sandstone. Such is the case, but being a coherent limestone it occupies much more area than the St. Peter. It covers fully one-half of the county, stretching in a broad, interrupted band from southeast to northwest. Its outer edge is the labyrinthine, interrupted line of level, peculiar bluffs which reach in their serpentine course every township in the county, except only Rock Dell and High Forest. The southwestern or upper edge of its outcrop cannot be traced so minutely, as this formation passes insensibly into the galena which overlies it. The formation covers the most of Kalmar, Haverhill, Viola and Eyota townships. It caps also with a few feet of limestone the most of the outliers of St. Peter already mentioned.

The *lithological characters* are described in the first annual report (already referred to), and need not be repeated.

In general, as seen in this county, we have below, a shaly limestone, often presenting beds of blue limestone, useful for building. This is more or less interrupted by shale and averages fifteen feet thick. Above this is a bed of green shale more or less interrupted with limestone, and about fifteen feet thick also. Above this we have one hundred and twenty-five feet of yellow, or gray, harsh, Magnesian limestone, in regular beds of varying thickness. In deep quarrying, this rock also is blue.

Many sections of this rock can be seen. It is the rock most generally quarried. Several sections for Olmsted county are given on pp. 97-99 of the first annual report of the survey (for 1872). The characters of others examined by me were uniform with those there described.

Many fossils are found in these beds. *Chaetetes lycopordon* is plentiful in the green shale. *Leptaena*, *Orthis*, *Strophomena*, *Murchisonia*, *Pleurotomaria*, *Orthoceras* are common. The orthocerites are unusually large.

This stone is the one most used in this county for building purposes. The stone for the buildings about Rochester were for the most part taken from the Trenton quarries near by. A quarry just within the city limits furnishes a large proportion of this stone.

It has been suggested that the clay of the green shale would make good brick or pottery. The grain is very fine, but the presence of small, calcareous fossils injures it for these purposes. A pottery factory, in which this clay was employed, started some years ago, had to be abandoned on this account.

#### THE GALENA LIMESTONE.

The area of this formation in the county is much less than that of the Trenton. It is found only in the southwestern part of the county, and covers rather less than twenty per cent of the whole area. Byron, in Kalmar, is located on this rock. It underlies nearly all of Salem and High Forest and considerable parts of Rock Dell, Rochester and Pleasant Grove. It extends into Marion and Orion, and Mr. Hurlbut says that a small scalp of it may yet be found in the western part of Eyota township. The lower and upper edges of its outcrop cannot be accurately traced. In the case of the lower edge it is for the reason already mentioned, namely, the Trenton and galena blend gradually. The upper edge cannot be traced because it is completely concealed by drift.

In *lithological character*, as seen here, this rock is a heavily bedded, buff dolomite, fine grained, or coarse and porous. It contains often small pieces of iron pyrites, which, by weathering, give it ferruginous stains. Lead has not been found in place in the rock, but farmers sometimes find it isolated on the surface, evidently left behind when the rest of the rock material was weathered away. It often contains crystals of spar; sometimes irregular cavities are found. Under the influence of the weather, the rock is seen to vary in solubility. The result is frequently sinkholes of varying dimensions. Such holes, a few feet deep, are common on the bluffs of this formation, and Mr. Hurlbut speaks of an extensive one on the bluff near Garrick's quarry, the bottom of which has never been reached. Another result of this unequal weathering is the craggy appearance of the bluffs formed by the galena.

This limestone is well displayed in this county at a quarry, Sec. 17, Rochester township. The floor of this quarry is about thirty

feet above the Trenton. To the top of the quarry is about thirty-five feet. The rock is a sparry, magnesian and more or less arenaceous limestone. It is in beds one to three feet thick, separated by very thin layers of light blue shale. The beds are massive and yellowish, somewhat stained with iron, arising from the decay of iron pyrites. The upper portions are most arenaceous and fossiliferous. In the crevices is found abundance of satin-spar, and in the largest ones stalactites may be found.

A quarry on the north bank of Root river, Sec. 31, High Forest township, is in this formation. This rock is exposed for twenty-five feet, and is dolomitic, more or less concretionary, with small, spar-lined cavities. It is sparingly fossiliferous. The upper six feet are much broken up. The remainder is compact and unevenly bedded. The concretionary structure is not visible on fresh surfaces. It is brought out by weathering, and especially by burning, and then appears in the form of fine rusty lines.

On the left bank of the same stream, about one mile west of the above quarry, is an exposure of yellow thin-bedded, broken, uneven, dolomitic limestone, of which only eight or ten feet are visible.

The same rock is well exposed in the ravines of Salem and Rock Dell, where it is quarried to some extent for building.

As to economical value, this formation produces the best building stone found in the state. It has been much used in Rochester, but has been mostly derived from Mantorville, in Dodge county. At a quarry near High Forest, it has been burned for lime.

#### THE CRETACEOUS.

A careful search along Root river and elsewhere in the southwest corner of the county failed to afford me the slightest trace of the Maquoketa shales, which would be naturally expected overlying the galena. An outcrop was found a few rods west of P. Brewer's residence, in the southwest quarter of Sec. 35, of Rock Dell township, on the north bank of Root river, the character of which is doubtful. The formations in the adjoining counties, and the lithological character, indicate the probability of its being Cretaceous, and it is thus marked on the accompanying map. The exposure is along a road-track going down to a ford of the stream, and was partially covered with soil and overgrown by bushes. The following is the section from below upward:

	Feet.
Compact, bluish limestone.....	2
Indurated, arenaceous, yellowish shale.....	1
Yellow sandstone, in broken layers.....	1
Light blue clay.....	$\frac{1}{2}$
Reddish, broken sandstone.....	$1\frac{1}{2}$
Light blue clay.....	$\frac{1}{4}$
Sandstone.....	1
Sandy, bluish clay.....	$\frac{1}{2}$
Total seen distinctly.....	<hr/> 7 $\frac{3}{4}$

The same arrangement of alternating sandstone and clay could be traced indistinctly four or five feet farther up.

Three rods farther down the river is a compact limestone, silicious, not dolomitic, non-fossiliferous, much broken by frost. The line of meeting of this with the preceding was concealed by soil and overgrowing plants.

The first described is in all probability Cretaceous; the second cannot be referred to any formation with certainty. Perhaps it is Cretaceous, perhaps Niagara.

A scalp of Cretaceous, containing fossils in abundance, is said to have been found in the western part of Eyota township. It was of very limited extent.

#### THE DRIFT.

This covers much of the county. It thins out toward the northeast. It is of considerable thickness in the southwest. Its edge is ragged and shows extensions, which, however, are not in conformation with the present drainage system. It consists of blue clay, washed or yellow clay, stratified gravel and sand, and bowlders.

The blue clay is by no means continuous. It is found in limited areas, and bands in various parts of the county. Sometimes it forms distinct ridges, as in western Rochester city and in the valley directly east of Rochester. In such cases it usually abuts on a bluff.

The washed clay, as its name indicates, has been worked over by water since its deposition in the drift. It occupies low pondlike spots, or abuts on the bluffs. It is usually of a uniform reddish-yellow color and quite arenaceous. Sometimes it is in colored layers of red, yellow and green. In this case its derivation is probably from the green shale of the Trenton as well as from the drift. The washed clay is used for bricks.

The exposures of sand and gravel are not extensive in the parts of the county examined by me. Where seen they exhibit the usual characters. The bowlders are entirely absent in most parts of the



county. In many scattered localities, again, they are abundant ; and in the southwest corner of the county they are often found of great size.

It is a striking fact, often mentioned, that water is often found on the bluffs at a much less depth than at their base. The geological formation satisfactorily accounts for this.

Brick are made at many places in the county. Oronoco, Eyota, Pleasant Grove, Byron and Rochester furnish brick. Although the material is sandy, more sand is usually put in in making the brick, which are consequently tender and of poor quality. The brick vitrify but little when burned.

No peat has been observed in the county. In some lowlands the turf is thick and comparatively free from inorganic matter. This will burn and produce some heat, but it is much inferior to proper peat.

Gold has been found in the drift along the Zumbro from Rochester and Oronoco down to the Wabasha border and beyond. It is found only on the Lower Magnesian. Murchison calls attention to this fact as generally true. It is found in the drift about the stream, but mostly in the bed of the stream or in material worked over by it at a comparatively recent date. In the same alluvial material is found a small amount of black sand, of a specific gravity approaching that of gold. When the gold is obtained by washing, after all the other materials are washed away this heavy black sand remains, and the minute fragments of gold are picked out from it. It is therefore here called the "mother of gold," and the two are thought to be always together, a conclusion which need not necessarily follow.

The gold is in minute, angular fragments. The quantity is so small that it does not pay to work it by the ordinary method of hand-washing. Washing on a more extensive scale might be made to pay. It has been tried two or three times, but never under favorable circumstances, or for periods of any length.

## CHAPTER X.

### THE CYCLONE.

ON the afternoon of August 21, 1883, the citizens of Rochester and vicinity observed a peculiar condition of the atmosphere. The air was murky and oppressive. The heavens were overcast by clouds of a dull leaden hue, and apparently there were three strata, all moving in different directions. About three or four o'clock the clouds began to concentrate immediately west of the city, a slight shower of rain passed over, and, for a few moments succeeding, the air was as still as a tomb. Soon light, fleecy clouds were seen scudding athwart the sky at lightning speed, the great dark mass in the west assumed a greenish cast, the heavens blazed with pale yellow lightning, and soon a roar was heard that caused stern faces to blanch and brave hearts to throb with terror. In a moment the storm was upon us. With a roar like ten thousand demons, it swept down upon the beautiful city. Like a great coiling serpent, darting out a thousand tongues of lightning, with a hiss like the seething, roaring Niagara, it wrapped the city in its hideous coils. The crashing of buildings and the despairing shrieks of men, women and children were drowned in its terrible roar. An hour later, the pale moonbeams fell upon two hundred ruined homes, two score of dead, ghastly faces, and the stillness of night was broken by the moans of the wounded and dying. What tongue or pen can half describe this terrible scene of desolation and death?

The "Rochester Post," of August 24, contained the following account of this terrible disaster:

About seven o'clock it began to rain, and the wind came at first in fitful gusts, gradually becoming more steady until at last it became a gale. Suddenly the wind changed slightly to the west and in an instant its terrific power had done its destructive work. Trees bent down as wax candles in a furnace; chimneys, roofs, spires, cupolas, fences, barns and houses sunk before its awful force as men sink down in battle. The presence of the storm was mysteriously oppressive. An indefinable feeling of dread seemed to hover in the air and to impress both men and beasts with a sense of impending

danger. Language cannot describe the scene that met the gaze of the people as they emerged from their dwellings. The streets were literally blocked with débris of every kind of trees, house roofs, lumber, great rolls of tin from the roofs of blocks. The public buildings, minus domes, spires, cupolas, and roofs, barns and houses in the streets, were utterly destroyed. But worse than all the rest was the news that flew from lip to lip that in North Rochester many lives were lost and many were wounded, while hundreds were without shelter.

Following is a list of the damaged property, beginning at T. P. Hall & Co's building on College street: The southeast corner of the roof of that structure was blown off. George Head's residence on College Hill was unroofed. C. C. Wilson's barns were blown down and scattered in every direction. Mr. Coon's residence was also unroofed and his barns torn down. Musson's barn was overturned. John R. Cook's barn was unroofed.

On Third street: The south gable of the Merchants' Hotel stable was blown in. The west side of Holz's saloon was demolished and the inner walls badly damaged. The roof of Mr. A. Gooding's house was damaged, and J. A. Cole's stone mill unroofed.

On Zumbro street: The roof and cornice of the Cook House sustained considerable damage. The roof and front cupola of the central school building were lifted off and the building otherwise damaged. The spire of the Congregational church was lifted from its resting-place and deposited on the ground near the rear of the building. The dome and a part of the roof of the court-house were blown off. Walter S. Booth's residence was unroofed. James Bucklin's house is a wreck.

On Fourth street: Porter's barn and the residence of Mr. Schwab are the only buildings on this street sustaining serious damage. W. Beardsley's house was injured slightly, the kitchen being partially torn down. His barn was also somewhat wrenched. The chimney of the Baptist church was blown through the roof and the north side of the tower injured. The east wall of F. D. Livermore's foundry office was blown out, and the roof driven through the boiler shop.

On Fifth street: The reporter found the residence of Mr. Emerick somewhat damaged, Mr. Cammack's barn unroofed and the upper story of the Catholic parsonage demolished. The cupola of the convent was slightly damaged, and a part of the roof torn off. The spire of the Methodist Episcopal church was down, the roof partially

crushed in, and the east wall was badly damaged. The roof of the parsonage was also considerably damaged. The upper part of the west side of the Winona House leaned over upon the roof, and the roof of the barn was partially torn off.

On Sixth street: Irving Fox's gun-shop was badly racked, and the roof of Rowley's blacksmith shop partially gone. The center and roof of the building on the northwest corner of Sixth and Broadway were crushed in. The roof, cornice and skylight on Crowell's picture gallery were damaged. Mr. Gaskill's barn was in ruins, and the roof of Dr. Williams' residence slightly injured. The roof of the creamery was torn off and the upper part of the north end crushed in. The cooper shop and sheds in connection with the creamery were demolished. The residence occupied by J. L. Howie was badly damaged.

On Seventh street: The spire of the German Lutheran church was prostrated, and Moses Hurd's barn leveled to the earth.

On Eighth street: West wing of Dewitt Smith's residence torn off. Rev. Roth's barn blown down. Mr. Brace's house blown down. Roof of Mrs. Haney's house blown off. The roof of Mr. Murphy's house damaged. Two barns belonging to Messrs. Kelly and Heffron respectively, were wrecked. The roof of Mr. Tolbert's barn torn off. The roof of the Broadway House was torn off, and the building otherwise damaged.

On Division street: Roof of Whiting's elevator damaged. Gilman's factory demolished. The Rochester Harvester Works and office entirely ruined. Whitten's warehouse destroyed.

On Franklin street, north of railroad: Whitten's dwelling, occupied by Mr. Manley, entirely ruined. The residence of Mr. Burse was demolished and two houses belonging to Mrs. Smith were unroofed. S. Vroman's dwelling was leveled. The third ward schoolhouse was completely wrecked and Mr. Rhoder's house entirely ruined. The Broadway bridge is a thing of the past. The dwellings of Charles Carter, Dan Raugh, Dr. Chapman and G. W. Pugh were in ruins. The residence of Robert Smith was destroyed. H. R. Flagg's dwelling was ruined. The houses of Messrs. Wooley, Luther, Ryan and Clough were entirely destroyed. Mr. McCutchin's house was partially ruined; also the dwelling of Mr. Pederson. The residence of Frank H. Allen is destroyed. Mrs. Proctor's house was moved from the foundation and badly racked. Mrs. Armstrong's house was considerably damaged. The dwellings of Tal Williams,



Lewis Price, William Pugh, Paul Jorden, Mrs. Howe and Peter Larson were entirely ruined. A house owned by Ashel Lurth and occupied by Mrs. Humphries was destroyed; also the house of S. H. Sargeant. At Cole's mill we found eight cars overturned and two carloads of flour in the race. The west end of Cole's mill was blown in; the machinery on the attic floor was all out of place, the roof blown off, and part of the southwest corner torn out. The smoke-stack of the engine-house was prostrated and the building otherwise damaged. The cooper-shop at Cole's mill was destroyed, also an unoccupied house near the reservoir. East and south the dwellings of James Gardner and W. A. Wylie were in ruins. The roof of Judge Eaton's house was blown off. The dwelling of Mrs. Shannahan was also unroofed. The houses of William Parker and Mr. McCutchin were wrecked. John Proud's house and barn were demolished, also the dwellings of Geo. Hanson and L. J. Slade. Mr. McCormick's house was damaged. L. H. Hummason's house was ruined, and an unoccupied house of Horace Cook's nearly so. A house owned by Mr. Granger and occupied by Herman Blank was wrecked. Mrs. Warfield's house was unroofed. The houses of Mr. Gasky and Mr. Hagan were destroyed. A house owned by Louie Miller was wrecked. Houses owned by Messrs. Brown, Tondro, Kahily, Vaughn, Manley, Roeder, Martin and Conklin were utterly annihilated. The Leland farm residence was destroyed. Lehman's house occupied by Mr. Fromis was laid in ruins. The residence of August Zirrach was destroyed. Mr. Frank Reed's house was in ruins; also Mr. Turk's dwelling. The house and barn of John Vedder were flat. The dwellings of Messrs. Hagadon and J. B. Wagoner were destroyed. Mr. Winraber's house was ruined, also those of Mr. Gordy and Mr. Swa-kie. H. A. Brown's house occupied by Thomas Clark was ruined. Two dwellings opposite owned by Messrs. Osborn and Witskie were also ruined. William Brown's house was wrecked. The dwellings of Messrs. Bolin, Morse, Richardson and Burch were also ruined; also a vacant house next to Mr. Osborn's. The top story of Horace Cook's home was blown off. Mrs. Smith's house was blown from the foundation and badly racked. The dwellings of Messrs. Peterson and Briggs were ruined. The wing and roof of John Hanson's dwelling were demolished. The main part of James Elliott's house was laid in ruins. Charles Ballard's house was destroyed. William Hines' house was badly damaged and his barn blown down. Mr. Cole's house was slightly damaged. A house

owned by Mr. Hull and occupied by C. T. Seaver was badly wrecked. Two sides of the roof of T. A. Whiting's dwelling were torn off and the interior badly damaged. The west wing of Mr. Buttles' house was torn off and his barn blown down. Mr. Radabaugh's barn was blown down and house unroofed. The wing was torn from E. F. Whiting's dwelling. Two houses belonging to Mr. Herrick were damaged. Mr. Mapes' house was damaged. The south end and roof of B. H. Ellison's house were torn off. Frank Lovell's shop was torn to pieces. B. R. Birch's house was moved from the foundation. The roof of John Miller's house was torn off and his barn destroyed. John Oleson's house was blown from the foundation and roof torn off. H. Manley's house was ruined. A house belonging to Mrs. Smith was ruined, and another belonging to the same lady unroofed. Mr. M. Y. Burroughs had two houses and a barn ruined. A house owned by Mrs. Graeff (occupant unknown) badly damaged. Mrs. Gardner's house was destroyed. Charles Hagedod's house was blown from the foundation and kitchen off. The kitchen of Mr. Dagner's house was blown off. The residence of Mr. Bedie was blown from the foundation and the roof blown off. Mrs. Chute's house was destroyed. The Scandinavian hotel was considerably damaged. The side and roof of Mr. A. Zerath's house were damaged. Peter Gaffney's house was destroyed. The roof of Mr. Lind's house was torn off. The roof of Chancey Vroman's house was damaged and his warehouse torn down. A house owned by Mrs. Cutler and occupied by Mrs. Dore was damaged. Mr. Doll's house was slightly damaged. C. W. Baldwin's barn was blown down. The roof of the C. & N. W. railroad depot was torn off and the west end damaged. Several box cars were damaged. The long warehouse opposite the depot was unroofed. Van Dusen & Co's elevator was unroofed and otherwise damaged. H. T. Horton's elevator was entirely demolished, also his warehouse was partially destroyed. The horse-power room of T. A. Whiting's elevator was torn down. Whitten and Judd's coalhouse was destroyed. The C. & N. W. roundhouse was demolished. The roof of H. T. Horton's house was damaged and the upper part of his barn torn off. O. P. Whitcomb's barn was destroyed and the kitchen part of his house blown off. James Kelley's barn was blown down. Mathias Williams' saloon on Main street is considerably damaged. A part of the front of Perry's livery stable was torn off. The railroad bridge was blown into the river. On Fifth street east

of the river, Asahel Smith's barn was unroofed. David Lesuer's house was unroofed and a part of the west wing torn down. The roof of Rev. Kerr's dwelling was slightly damaged. A brick dwelling near the asylum and owned by Mrs. Gilbert Smith, and occupied by Wm. West, was unroofed.

On Broadway : On the whole, the damage to property on upper Broadway is comparatively slight. A. D. Vedder's loss will greatly exceed that of any other merchant. About seventy-five feet of the west end of his machine store is a chaotic mass of ruins. He and his wife were in the cellar and were only saved from a horrible death by some heavy timbers which lodged above them and held a great mass of masonry which had fallen in immediately over their heads. A frame building opposite Mr. Vedder's is badly racked. George Stocking's new building was entirely demolished ; also a frame building belonging to Mr. Beardsley. Rommell's hall is unroofed. The business houses which sustained no damage but broken fronts are as follows : Bonham & Roth, Leet & Knowlton, Hebbard & Gerry, J. W. Everstine, Seikert & Adler, C. Neusuess, G. Hargshaimer. The tin roof was torn off Heaney's block and the cornice slightly injured. The work of the storm-fiend is complete. He gave no quarter to man, woman nor dimpled child. No home nor family escaped his wrath. The death-angel was enthroned above his dusky form, and together, with a wild, hideous roar, they swept down upon our beautiful city like a devouring demon. An hour later the pale moonbeams fell upon a hundred ruined homes, nearly a score of dead, upturned faces, and the night air was filled with the shrieks and groans of the wounded and dying.

In North Rochester the scene is one of utter desolation and ruin. Groups are standing here and there gazing with sad, tearful faces upon their ruined homes. Buildings were absolutely swept out of existence. Trees were torn out and stripped of their leaves, timbers driven into the ground as though fired from a cannon. The earth is strewn with horses, cattle and débris. It is a scene indescribable, and one which will leave an indelible impression upon the minds of those who look upon it.

The following is a list of the dead and wounded, as far as it is possible to give it at present. There are peculiar difficulties in the way of getting accurate information concerning the wounded outside of the hospital, as they are scattered over the town and have not all been reported to us.

The killed are : J. M. Cole, Mrs. McQuillian, Mrs. Steele, Mrs. Maria Zierath, Mr. August Zierath, Mr. Osborne and infant daughter, Mrs. Fred Clough, Mrs. D. Wetherby, Jacob Hetzel, William Higgins, Mrs. Quick and child, Miss Mahala McCormack, Mrs. Parker, Mrs. Schultz, Mrs. Charles Rothke.

In the country, John Canty, Andrew Johnson, Mr. Berg, Mr. Wells and Job Thorington are dead.

The wounded are as follows, as far as we can learn : Mrs. Osborne, chest, left eye, legs and arm ; Mrs. O. H. Rudh, cut arm and face ; Anna Zierath, cut head, badly bruised body ; Mira Hanson, cut head and face, hip bruised ; D. D. Wrought, bruised head badly ; Nels. Hanson, cut head and right leg ; Mrs. W. R. Wrought, back, shoulder and inwardly hurt ; Mrs. C. Manley, arm, side, shoulder and head bruised ; Mrs. Hanson, cut head, shoulder, back and spine ; Lillie Osborne, head, back and spine hurt ; M. Sweeny, legs and head cut ; Dan O'Bryan, right arm broken, cut head and left shoulder ; George Hanson, spine, head and breast hurt ; William Leach, head, legs and arm hurt ; D. Wetherby, cut in left side, head, left arm, small of back hurt ; O. H. Hawkins, head and shoulder hurt ; Charles Quick, cut in right leg ; Gertie Quick, cut head and left side ; Benart Quick, cut face and feet ; Herman Quick, cut arm, legs and face ; Armenta Quick, left side ; Antheon Quick, hips bruised badly ; Frank Quick, head cut ; Willie Hanson, broken arm, cut eye and head ; John Hong, cut left shoulder and head ; John Shamrock, right shoulder hurt ; Willie Reek, broken arm and leg, head cut ; O. H. Rudh, head cut, small of back hurt ; Otto Rudh, head and arm badly hurt ; Frank Shultz, broken finger, head cut ; Mr. Coon's leg broken ; Frank Clements, arm broken ; Charles Hegerdon, cut in head ; Fred Clough and child ; Miss Sarah Johnston, domestic at Lealand's ; Charles Jackson ; Mrs. Young, hurt internally ; Dr. Eaton, hurt in back ; Charles Marvin, wrist sprained ; Lewie Posz, leg broken ; Ed. Chapman, wife and mother.

#### FUNERAL CEREMONIES.

Thursday morning dawned bright and beautiful. At an early hour strangers began to pour in from all directions. By noon the streets were crowded with a surging mass of humanity. The expression of sadness on every face told more plainly than fluttering crape or tolling bells the tale of mourning, desolation and death.



Ten bodies were interred in Oakwood cemetery in the afternoon. At 4:30 a procession formed in front of the Cook House and started for the cemetery. Fifth street from Broadway to the cemetery gates was literally jammed with teams. Following is a list of the victims interred: Mrs. Wetherby, Nellie Irwin, Mahala McCormick, Mr. Hetzel, Mrs. McQuillan, Mrs. Quick, Mrs. Clough, Mrs. Zierath, August Zierath, Mr. Osborne and child. The names of the ministers officiating are as follows: Rev. C. A. Hampton, Rev. J. W. Bradshaw, Rev. J. Stafford, Prof. E. W. Young, Rev. E. R. Lathrop, of Austin, and Rev. Stuelfenagel, of Pottsdam. The ceremonies performed over the graves were very simple. No dirge was sung. No sound was heard but humble prayers and smothered moans of unutterable anguish. The only tributes left upon the close-clinging clay were silent, scalding tears. It was by far the saddest funeral the city has ever seen.

#### OUTSIDE OF THE CITY.

The storm began its ravages in Dodge county at a point five miles southwest of Dodge Center. From that place it proceeded in a due eastern course across the country, leaving destruction in its path, which was fully one mile wide. Mayor Whitten's farm south of Dodge Center was desolated. His loss was fully \$5,000. Five persons were killed in that county. The cyclone struck Olmsted county in the town of Salem, a little north of the center on the west side. We have not been able as yet to learn any particulars of the storm west of Salem Corners. Near the Corners the barn of Cyrus Holt was blown down and his house badly racked. Luther McCoy also suffered in a similar way. The buildings of J. B. Little, L. Donovan, T. McGovern and W. P. Brooks were swept away. All these were in the town of Salem. House of Nels Jacobson, occupied by Peter Matson, all destroyed; Ole Johnson had all his buildings destroyed; a house belonging to a widow woman was unroofed and the building moved. Amil Johnson, everything, buildings, machinery, all gone. Chris Johnson Lillo, buildings all gone, a complete destruction. His father living with him was killed; Ole Christ, every building is blown away. In the town of Ka lmar John McGovern's two large barns were demolished.

In Rochester township: Mr. Higby lost everything. The buildings on Mrs. Faitoute's place are utterly gone. The granary of George Baihly's farm is destroyed. Mr. Hurd's and Mr. Clement's

buildings are badly injured ; and Frank Clements had his arm broken. Mr. Horton's large barn 34×100 feet with 130 tons of hay inside, was utterly demolished. Mr. Coon, Mr. Horton's son-in-law, had his leg broken. Four horses and four cows were killed in their barn. Mr. Engle's house and barn, both new fine structures, were blown down. In the track of the storm everything was destroyed. Crops in the shock, in sheds, in barns are gone. Large numbers of cattle, horses, hogs and sheep were killed, but we cannot at present give the numbers with accuracy.

In Haverhill: German farmer, every building annihilated. German farmer, all outbuildings gone. Flyng's schoolhouse gone. Lawlor farm, buildings all gone. Lovejoy farm, buildings all gone, stock killed. Mr. Allen, every building but house gone. Blethens, all but house utterly gone. Town hall off foundation. P. J. Lumland, every building gone and the cemetery near by had every gravestone thrown down. J. Adler, all barns gone. L. L. Allen, everything gone. A. K. Williams, everything ruined. John Canty, buildings all gone and Mr. Canty killed. C. C. Willson's farm was devastated, as was the farm of S. Geisinger. The houses of Mr. Jenkins and Mrs. Welch were destroyed.

In Quincy: Mrs. S. Evans lost barn and machine sheds and contents. John Wiggim's house was moved from the foundation and the L torn off and his granary was turned upside down. Samual Tenney lost house, barn, every building. Five horses and a cow were killed in his barn. Sandy Fenier lost every building.

Our Viola correspondent sends us the following: The cyclone here Tuesday evening completely demolished Mr. P. F. Wells' dwelling-house, hurting Mr. and Mrs. Wells seriously. Hon. Henry Stanchfield's buildings are all blown to atoms ; loss at least \$7,000. None of the family hurt. The house known as the H. H. Richardson place was blown from the foundation and carried ten or fifteen rods. M. L. Sawyer's barn is blown down. R. F. Johnson's outbuildings and also J. R. Williams' outbuildings are gone. Thos. Richardson's outbuildings are also down and his house lost the roof and one end, and Henry C. Richardson is seriously hurt. People saved their lives only by getting down cellar. The storm traveled across this township about one mile north of the center and wrecked nearly every building in its course.

In Viola and Quincy townships: Property of J. G. Buckley, A. Helms, G. Heinshort, G. H. Mueller, Charles Callaghan, H. H.

Vine, Philo F. Wells, M. L. Sawyer, Henry Stanchfield, Rodney Richardson, H. C. Richardson, Mrs. Ellen M. Evans, J. Weagant, Samuel Tenney, J. Brown, A. Farrier, and others, was destroyed.

#### RELIEF WORK.

As soon as the storm passed over the city the citizens who were not injured went to work with a will to relieve the wounded and to care for the dead. The hotels in the vicinity of the railroad were used as hospitals, and into these the wounded were carried. The offices of the physicians were also thrown open and the wounded conveyed thither. All night long the work went on. In the morning the families who could do so furnished food to the homeless, and the bakeries were drawn upon to supply their meals. At half-past eight a committee of the citizens was appointed by the mayor, and a call was issued for a meeting at Rommel's hall. This place had been chosen as a hospital, and the work of putting up cots and removing the wounded thither was begun. Dr. Berkman was appointed hospital steward and given control of all supplies and nurses.

The committee appointed by the mayor, consisting of the following names, met at ten o'clock: S. Whitten, C. M. Start, H. C. Butler, Rev. J. W. Bradshaw, M. G. Spring, O. W. Durkee, Rev. D. Reed, T. H. Bliss, Rev. Riordan, A. T. Stebbins, Fayette Cook, A. Harrington, S. B. Clark, G. Hargesheimer, M. R. Wood, D. A. Morrison, C. H. Heffron and W. C. Rice. Mayor Whitten presided. The following officers and committees were duly appointed: C. M. Start, chairman; W. C. Rice, secretary and treasurer.

Committee on Solicitation: T. H. Bliss, C. H. Heffron, G. Hargesheimer, D. A. Morrison, M. R. Wood.

Committee on Hospital: H. C. Butler, J. W. Bradshaw, Rev. D. Reed, Rev. J. Stafford.

Committee on Commissary Supplies: S. Whitten, M. G. Spring, S. B. Clark, H. Schester, A. Harrington, O. W. Durkee.

Committee on Canvassing to ascertain needy cases: Fayette Cook, Rev. Riordan, A. T. Stebbins.

These committees organized and proceeded to work at once in their respective departments. By eleven o'clock the wounded, to the number of thirty-four, who could not be cared for by friends, were all in the hospital, and, under the care and skill of physicians and lady nurses, were made as comfortable as possible. Supplies of

clothing, bedding, wine, food, etc., were brought in, stoves set up, cooks employed, and before noon, under Dr. Berkman's efficient management and the willing hands who aided him, everything was working with system and harmony.

The chairman and secretary arranged with the undertakers to assist in burying the dead. During the morning telegrams were sent to Gov. Hubbard, to mayors of Minneapolis and St. Paul. At noon mayor Ludwig, of Winona, accompanied by other prominent citizens, came up and looked over the ruins and returned to take action for relief. In the evening a telegram was received from St. Paul authorizing the relief committee to draw upon that city for \$5,000.

The Committee on Commissary Stores set tables in Olds & Fishback's store on Broadway and arranged to feed those who were destitute. They also provided beds and cots in other places for the houseless.

The telegraph line was broken down in the track of the storm, but during the night an instrument was attached to the wire east of the bridge and one wire got to working east. Over this wire, by the kindness of Supt. Sanborn, the following message was sent to Gov. Hubbard and to Mayor Ludwig, of Winona, with the request that they repeat to other cities :

Rochester is in ruins. Twenty-four people are killed. Over forty are seriously injured. One-third of the city laid waste. We need immediate help.

S. WHITTEN, Mayor.

It happened that in St. Paul a meeting of the leading business men was in session upon other business when Gov. Hubbard received the telegram. Expressions of regret were profound. Mr. Ferdinand Willius moved that a demand note for \$5,000 be drawn up and signed by those present and placed in Gov. Hubbard's hands, to be used at his discretion, and that he telegraph at once the action to the mayor of Rochester.

The following is the note :

ST. PAUL, August 22, 1883.—For value received we promise to pay to the order of Ferdinand Willius, trustee, five thousand dollars, with interest at eight per cent per annum until paid, payable on demand at the National German-American bank of St. Paul. Edmund Rice, Allen, Moon & Co., Strong, Hackett & Co., Maxfield & Seabury, Henry A. Castle, C. B. Thurston, Holl & Pear, P. R. L. Hardenburgh & Co., A. G. Foster, Thos. Cochran, Jr., Gordon & Ferguson, Wm. Lindeke, H. S. Fairchild, Bacon & Stone, P. H. Kelly, Gustav Willius, E. S. Norton, S. S. Glidden, Berkey, Talmage & Co., George Benz, Dyer & Howard,



W. P. Murray, J. W. Bishop, S. S. Eaton, Albert Sheffer, J. P. Gribben, Wm. A. Van Slyke, D. A. Robertson, D. D. Merrill, Mannheimer Bros., E. E. Hughson, John Somers, Frank Breuer, John B. Sanborn, Herman Greve, F. Willius, J. D. Ludden, H. R. Bigelow, W. L. Lamprey, Pollock, Donaldson & Ogden, Prendergast Bros., Pioneer Press Co., M. E. Thompson, C. D. Gilfillan, B. Presley & Co., B. Beaupre, Edw. H. Biggs, John S. Prince, Jas. McKey & Co., L. E. Reed.

Gov. Hubbard, as usual, acted promptly in this matter. Besides going before the St. Paul business men, as above narrated, and stimulating them to such action that within forty minutes from the receipt of the first news of the disaster he had telegraphed the mayor of Rochester, placing \$5,000 at his disposal, the governor at once addressed the following telegram to the mayors of Minneapolis, Stillwater, Duluth, Brainerd, Hastings, Red Wing, Lake City, Wabasha, Winona, Mankato, Fergus Falls, St. Cloud, Owatonna and Austin :

ST. PAUL, August 22.—I have just received the following telegram from the mayor of Rochester, Minn. Please present this appeal for aid before the people of your city.

L. F. HUBBARD, Governor.

In response to the message, Mayor Ludwig and several leading citizens came up and looked up the damage. They returned and called a meeting of the board of trade Wednesday evening. The following message was sent after the meeting :

*To Mayor Whitten:* Subscribed tonight \$2,500 and will forward tomorrow, with much more to follow.

JOHN LUDWIG.

Other telegrams as follows have been received :

ST. PAUL.—Citizens of Stillwater give \$1,000 to aid your sufferers, for which you may draw on me.

L. F. HUBBARD.

LAKE CITY.—Draw on us, the city of Lake City, for \$250 for benefit of sufferers. Have sent out committees.

O. F. ROGERS.

HASTINGS.—Draw on me for \$100.

J. B. LAMBERT, Mayor.

RED WING.—You have the sympathy of our entire city. Draw at once for \$500.

F. B. HOWE.

LA CROSSE.—La Crosse sends her sympathy and desires to show it practically. How can we best aid you?

D. LAW, Mayor.

C. HIRSCHIMER, Pres't Board Trade.

The following private contributions have been received : W. D. Washburn, Minneapolis, \$1,000. G. W. Stenke, St. Peter, \$300.

## CHAPTER XI.

### CASCADE TOWNSHIP.

THE first settlement in this township was made in the fall of 1854. James Bucklin, Mr. Proudfoot and others made claims and built houses during that year.

The latter gentleman opened a store in the following winter west of Cascade creek, and kept it in operation until the summer of 1855, when he removed his goods to Rochester.

In the spring of 1855 E. D. Cobb, Noble Cobb, George W. Huyler, L. L. Eaton, Charles Horton, Joseph Mathews, and many others, made claims and established residences.

The town was organized with its present boundaries in 1859, and the following named officers elected: Supervisors, James Bucklin, chairman, Alvah Southworth, and Philo Boardman; clerk, George Carpenter; treasurer, Sylvester Conklin; assessor, Hibbard Smith; constables, Joseph Chambers and Lewis Rice.

The present officers of the township are as follows: Supervisor, L. B. Joslyn; chairmen, Charles Crane and L. Roth; clerk, J. M. Morton; treasurer, George Ellsworth; justice, L. Andrus; assessor, J. L. Wright.

In the fall of 1855 L. L. Eaton opened his house, four miles west of Rochester, as a tavern for the accommodation of travelers, and kept it for some years, when he removed to Rochester. The first birth in the town was in the family of Joseph Horton, in the spring of 1855. The first death was in the same spring, being the daughter of James Bucklin.

### CITY OF ROCHESTER.

In the files of the "Rochester Post" we find the following from the pen of Elder Ely, of Winona, concerning the location of the site of Rochester: The town site mania commenced with the land company that laid out the town of Chatfield. Parties from Winona were out prospecting for town sites. Dr. Balcombe, early in 1854, led a party west. He missed the place where Rochester now stands, and made a claim in the timber at High Forest. About the middle of March the same year, E. S. Smith, Charles Eaton and Wheeler

Sargeant went out from Winona in search of a town site. Smith had just come from Minneapolis, where I may say, by the way, he had just completed the first sawmill built on the west side of the Mississippi in Minnesota, if we except the old government mill at that place. They started next from St. Charles and came to the Zumbro river, about three miles west of where Rochester now stands. They first made a claim where they struck the river, and intended to lay out a town, but Smith, in traveling down the river, heard the roar of the falls, and continued his journey until he came in sight of the present site of the stone mill. They abandoned the place they had fixed upon up the river and made a claim, fixing a site for a log shanty at the head of Main street. They immediately returned to Winona and hired George Wiltsee to go out and build the shanty. In a few days a small log building was completed and the claim was staked.

This was early in the spring, before the government survey was completed. The township lines had been run but the subdivisions had not been made.

Smith & Co. held the claim without anybody to disturb them, until about the 12th of July following, when George and Jonathan Head and their father came from Wisconsin and made their claim. They disregarded the claim and improvements of Smith & Co., indeed they begun to tear down the log shanty built by the first claimants. Smith, however, was on hand before the destruction was completed, and with a revolver in hand drove away the intruders. Subsequently the matter was settled by the payment of money, Smith and Eaton each received \$1,800, but Springer and Sargeant got nothing. Smith and Eaton showed fight.

T. C. Cummings and Robert McReady made claims and built their claims near Cascade creek, in the spring of 1854. On the 25th of July, that year, the town was staked out. It had already become a stopping-place for stages, as on the 15th of July M. O. Walker, the pioneer stage proprietor of the west, had established a line of stages from Dubuque to St. Paul, over the wilderness prairies and through the prospective town of Rochester, Winona and Elliot, which were at that time the nearest post-towns. During the first winter the neighbors were few, the families of F. Prodder, McReady and George Woolford being the only ones within seven miles of the new city. In the following spring there was quite an extensive emigration and business prospects became apparent. Mr. J. D. Jen-

kins built a store of logs and sold it to Hugh Mair, who soon filled it with goods for the accommodation of the rapidly increasing population. Wet and dry groceries seemed to be the most important articles in stock. A cask of gin, of this stock, was the first intoxicating liquor brought to this town.

George Head erected a log house in the summer of 1854. We are unable to ascertain whether or not the builder designed the same for a hotel, but it was used as such, the tide of emigration being so great that it was generally filled to overflowing with travelers. Provisions at that time were imported from Iowa, and consequently commanded a high price. Head continued business in the log cabin until the spring of 1856, when he disposed of the house and its equipments, Asa Lasuer being the purchaser. It was afterward torn down and the "York State House" erected a little farther up Broadway.

The first birth in Rochester was in the family of James Smith, in 1855. "A Mr. Brown was looking for a claim on the north side of the Zumbro on the school section in the fall of 1854, and soon thereafter was taken sick and died. This was the first death of a white person in Olmsted county. Very soon after his death his widow took another man, but was not married to him, as there was no one in the vicinity to perform the ceremony; yet they did the best they could, and procured witnesses to their agreement to get married as soon as there was an opportunity. This was the first matrimonial speculation publicly entered into in the vicinity."

In 1856 a log schoolhouse was erected east of the Zumbro, being the first one in the city. It was used as a church and town hall also. Miss Mary Walker taught school in the building the following summer. The first religious service held within the limits of Rochester was presided over by a minister from St. Paul, in December, 1854, at the residence of Mr. McReady. On the following evening services were held by the same minister at George Head's.

The dwellings erected in those days were very simple in architecture. We will describe one as pictured to us by one of its occupants. "We soon set about building our first residence, the material being at hand, which consisted of poles and bleached prairie grass. We remained in this rude home for a short time, but felt very highly favored when we were permitted to take up our abode in a new log house. It was 12×24 in size, the window-sashes



were whittled out with a penknife, oiled paper served in the place of window-glass, and a blanket hung over an opening in the side of the house served as a door."

Indians were quite numerous, but peaceable. They would frequently visit the dwellings of the whites for the purpose of barter. Wolves abounded, and their weird howls were nightly heard. Being communistic in their propensities, they often appropriated the property of the settlers to their own use. In one instance they entered the dwelling of George Head and carried off a sheep that had been killed to furnish breakfast for a company of travelers.

The first lawyer made his appearance in the summer of 1855, Jay Parker by name, who remained but a short time. By this time immigration was increasing to such an extent as to render the outlook for the prospective city very flattering. W. D. Lowry bought the claim of George Woolford, about half a mile south of the city plat, now within the city limits. In the fall of this year Mr. Lowry was elected to a seat in the territorial council, which position he occupied until the admission of Minnesota as a state in 1858. This election excited great interest, not only because it was the first in this election district, but because issues of great importance to Rochester and her neighboring towns were to come before that body, and to be by them decided. Oronoco and Chatfield were both anxious to have the county lines so located as to place each of those villages in the geographical center of a county, which arrangement would be equivalent to making each a county seat. To these measures and the results that would attend them the people of Rochester were decidedly opposed. Mr. Lowry was the candidate of the people of Rochester, and Reuben Ottoman, of Oronoco, the opposing candidate. A full vote of the county was called out and Lowry was elected, two to one.

The first lawsuit in the city was tried before James Bucklin, Esq., in the summer of 1855. The season being very busy, the justice was hoeing corn when the hour arrived for the suit to begin. The parties assembled in the cornfield and the suit was called. The parties were T. C. Cummings, plaintiff, and Alfred Moler, defendant; James A. Bucklin, attorney for plaintiff, and G. W. Chilson for defendant. The case was decided in favor of plaintiff.

The first sawmill in the town was of somewhat curious construction, and consisted of a scaffolding, six or eight feet in height, a "whip saw" with a strong handle at each end was used. The frame-

work of the scaffolding was so arranged that the log could be gauged to produce lumber of any desired thickness. The motive power was a man at each end of the saw, one of whom always stood beneath, or, as it was called, "in the pit"; hence it derived its name as the pit saw. These mills are quite common in old countries, and in this instance was of great benefit in a new country. Mr. Alexander, the proprietor, assured us that two men would frequently manufacture five hundred feet of lumber in a day. Messrs. Alexander and Goldsworthy built the first frame shop in the spring of 1856, on Zumbro street, where it did duty as a shop until 1861, when it was removed to Broadway and fitted up for a store. In the year following these gentlemen built a fine steam mill and sash factory on the Zumbro in east Rochester, to which they soon added machinery for planing and general cabinetmaking. This mill was continued in successful operation till the summer of 1863, when it was burned to the ground.

In the fall of 1855 Messrs. L. W. Bucklin and James Lovington built the first bridge across the Zumbro at a point opposite where Cook's livery stable now stands. It was built of logs and remained in use until 1857.

In 1856 F. A. Olds purchased of Messrs. Moe and Cross the property on the corner of Broadway and College streets, known as the mill reservation, and commenced the erection of a stone flouring-mill, which he completed the following year at a cost of \$40,000. This was the first substantial public improvement that was undertaken. Judge Olds built several blocks of buildings and was very active in all public enterprises.

In the summer of 1854 Fred Prodger and Henry Woodard made claim to the northern part of the city, and pre-empted the same in 1855. In the same year they sold it to C. H. Lindsley, who sold a three-fourths interest to Messrs. G. S. Harris, W. W. Cowles, Daniel Williams and Richard B. Smith, of Boston. They assumed the name of the "Boston Company" and commenced building upon and improving their property. Mr. Lindsley, resident proprietor, was chosen manager. This year they commenced the erection of the Zumbro falls mills, a large hotel, a courthouse, and several other buildings, making preparations for extensive improvements the ensuing year, but the financial revolution of 1857 included in the list of its victims the original Boston Company, and after spending about \$53,000 they were obliged to suspend operations, and the

property was transferred to the hands of their creditors, Messrs. Alvin Smith, J. H. Ward, David Loring and John M. Cole, all of Boston. In the final division of the property among the proprietors, the courthouse came into the hands of Mr. Lindsley, and the flouring-mills fell to John M. Cole, who in 1860 removed to Rochester and put the mills in the best of order, making them valuable to himself and the city.

The first brick business house in Rochester was erected by Dr. L. H. Kelly, formerly of Painesville, O. He built a brick store 22×70 feet on the corner of Broadway and College streets.

#### THE POSTOFFICE.

In a little log cabin situated on the west side of Cascade creek, near the residence formerly owned by M. W. Leland, the first post-office was established in 1855. Robert McReady, the proprietor of the unpretentious dwelling, was the first postmaster. The mail was then carried by stage from Dubuque to St. Paul. During the first year the weekly receipts of letters did not exceed a dozen in number, and it is said that the postmaster used the upper story of his hat as a depository for mail-matter. Lock-boxes were not then in vogue.

In the fall of 1856 Mr. P. H. Durfee, then occupying a log store built by Mr. Proudfoot on the present site of Union block, was appointed postmaster, and the office was removed to his store. A few months later the office was removed to John R. Cook's block, on the corner of Main and Third streets.

In the spring of 1858 Mrs. Nancy Baker was appointed postmistress, after which the office was removed to H. C. Green's store. Mr. J. V. Daniels was afterward appointed, and the office was removed to his office. In 1860 John W. Everstine succeeded him. The next change was in 1861, when M. J. A. Leonard was appointed.

On completion of Blakely's block, in the winter of 1863-4, the office was again removed to Broadway, being located in the rear end of F. W. Anderson's store. In the summer of 1864 Mr. C. C. Jones succeeded Mr. Leonard, and soon after removed the office to Peters' block, near the stone mill. This gentleman held the office one year, when Mr. Samuel Geisinger was appointed. A few months after his appointment this gentleman removed the office to Head's new building on Third street, west of Broadway.

In October, 1866, Mr. M. W. Fay was made postmaster, and

removed the office to Heany's block. In April, 1867, Judge Fay died, and W. W. Ireland, who had been for some time a clerk in the office, acted in the capacity of postmaster until the following July, when Mrs. Fay, widow of the judge, was appointed to succeed her husband. At the end of one year from this time C. C. Cole was appointed. In March, 1871, George W. Baker was appointed, and the office was soon after removed to a building on Third street, west of Broadway.

In August of the same year Capt. Abram Harkins was appointed, and after the completion of the Odd-Fellows' block removed the office to that building, where it still remains, under the captain's supervision.

#### INCORPORATION.

The city of Rochester was incorporated and received its charter in 1858. Following are the names of the first city officers elected from that time to 1882 inclusive :

##### 1858-9.

Mayor, Moses W. Fay; city justice, S. G. Whiting; treasurer, E. Damon; recorder, Thomas Brooks; city marshal, Thomas Ireland; official paper, "Free Press."

First Ward: Aldermen, R. C. Gates, J. W. Everstine; justice, L. L. Eaton; supervisor, H. C. Greene; constable, I. M. Terrill; assessor, J. B. Allyn; street commissioner, J. V. Daniels.

Second Ward: Aldermen, S. Geisinger, J. M. Williams; justice, J. P. Emerick; supervisor, C. C. Cole; constable, H. Loomis; assessor, E. Damon; street commissioner, Moses Hurd.

Third Ward: Aldermen, C. H. Lindsey, L. Wynkoop; justice, Wm. Hunter; supervisor, H. E. Mellen; constable, Wm. Unger; assessor, H. Hyatt; street commissioner, H. E. Mellen.

##### 1859-60.

Mayor, F. A. Olds; city justice, S. G. Whiting; treasurer, J. M. Williams; surveyor, P. P. Condit; recorder, F. A. Poole; marshal, H. Loomis; official paper, "Free Press."

First Ward: Aldermen, George C. Cook, H. A. Brown; justice, L. L. Eaton; supervisor, John W. Everstine; constable, I. M. Terrill; assessor, J. V. Daniels.

Second Ward: Aldermen, Moses Hurd, S. Geisinger; justice, J. P. Emerick; supervisor, S. Risker; constable, A. J. Drumbeller; assessor, Moses Hurd.

Third Ward: Aldermen, James S. Niles, Horace Cook; justice, Wm. Hunter; supervisor, C. H. Lindsey; constable, H. E. Mellen; assessor, Richard Reader.

##### 1860-1.

Mayor, W. D. Hurlbut; city justice, H. Hyatt; treasurer, J. V. Daniels; surveyor, J. V. Daniels; recorder, E. W. Crocker; marshal, J. W. Murray; city attorney, S. P. Jones; official paper, "City Post."



First Ward: Aldermen, J. V. Daniels, H. A. Brown; justice, L. L. Eaton; street commissioner, David Chase; constable, J. W. Murray; assessor, J. V. Daniels.

Second Ward: Aldermen, S. Geisinger, G. Smith; justice, J. A. Leonard; street commissioner, Gilbert Smith; constable, H. S. Sage; assessor, M. Hurd.

Third Ward: Aldermen, B. H. Ellison, R. McBride; justice, H. Hyatt; street commissioner, B. H. Ellison; constable, A. J. Farr; assessor, R. Reader.

## 1861-2.

Mayor, John Clark; city justice, H. Hyatt; treasurer, J. V. Daniels; surveyor, J. V. Daniels; poundmaster, L. L. Goodwin; recorder, E. W. Crocker; marshal, H. Loomis; city attorney, S. P. Jones; official paper, "City Post."

First Ward: Aldermen, J. E. Ellis, J. S. Woodard; justice, L. L. Eaton; street commissioner, Thos. Ireland; constable, H. Clark; assessor, J. V. Daniels.

Second Ward: Aldermen, E. Damon, E. Carpenter; justice, E. Carpenter; constable, H. S. Sage; assessor, S. Geisinger.

Third Ward: Aldermen, John M. Cole, H. E. Mellen; justice, H. Hyatt; constable, Orrin Jones; assessor, R. Reader.

## 1862-3.

Mayor, L. B. Bliss; city justice, R. Reynolds; treasurer, J. V. Daniels; assessor, J. V. Daniels; poundmaster, J. B. Wagoner; city attorney, O. P. Stearns; recorder, N. C. Younglove; marshal, C. Y. Ayers; official paper, "Rochester Post."

First Ward: Aldermen, George Head, J. S. Woodard; justice, L. L. Eaton; street commissioner, G. C. Cook; constable, Matt Markham.

Second Ward: Aldermen, W. W. Gibbs, H. C. Packard; justice, S. Geisinger; street commissioner, C. C. Cole; constable, Jacob Ault.

Third Ward: Aldermen, A. Smith, D. Kidd; justice, R. Reynolds; street commissioner, Lemuel Cook; constable, B. H. Ellison.

## 1863-4.

Mayor, L. B. Bliss; city justice, R. Reynolds; treasurer, J. V. Daniels; assessor, J. V. Daniels; policeman, J. D. Ault; poundmaster, J. D. Ault; city attorney, L. Barber; recorder, N. C. Younglove; marshal, L. O. Benjamin; official paper, "Rochester City Post."

First Ward: Aldermen, C. H. Chadbourn, Geo. Head; justice, L. L. Eaton; street commissioner, C. H. Chadbourn; constable, L. O. Benjamin.

Second Ward: Aldermen, W. W. Gibbs, H. C. Packard; justice, P. C. Compton; street commissioner, Geo. Healy; constable, N. Wilkins.

Third Ward: Aldermen, A. Smith, R. Reader; justice, R. Reynolds; street commissioner, Asahel Smith; constable, R. Hotchkiss.

## 1864-5.

Mayor, Abram Ozmun; city justice, W. S. Booth; treasurer, David Lesuer; assessor, C. C. Jones; surveyor, Geo. Healy; poundmaster, J. D. Ault; city attorney, C. M. Start; recorder, S. W. Eaton; marshal, Jacob D. Ault; chief of police, J. D. Ault; official paper, "City Post."

First Ward: Aldermen, C. H. Chadbourn, H. Ireland; justice, W. S. Booth; street commissioner, G. C. Cook; constable, Thomas Ireland.

Second Ward: Aldermen, H. J. Grant, W. D. Hurlbut; justice, J. P. Emerick; street commissioner, A. J. Lockie; constable, L. O. Benjamin.

Third Ward: Aldermen, R. McBride, R. Reader; justice, R. Reynolds; street commissioner, H. G. Damon; constable, Wm. Knight.

Board of Education: School Commissioners-at-Large, D. N. Mason, O. O. Baldwin; First Ward, H. L. R. Jones; Second Ward, Chas. Woodward; Third Ward, O. A. Hadley.

1865-6.

Mayor, J. V. Daniels; city justice, W. S. Booth; treasurer, David Lesuer; assessor, W. D. Hurlbut; surveyor, Geo. Healy; city attorney, C. M. Start; recorder, S. W. Eaton; marshal, Jacob D. Ault; chief of police, J. D. Ault; official paper, "City Post."

First Ward: Aldermen, Louis Walker, H. Ireland; justice, W. S. Booth; constable, Thomas Ireland.

Second Ward: Aldermen, H. T. Horton, M. Hurd; justice, S. Geisinger; street commissioner, Moses Hurd; constable, L. O. Benjamin.

Third Ward: Aldermen, John M. Cole, R. McBride; justice, R. Reynolds; street commissioner, Asahel Smith; constable, Wm. Knight.

Board of Education: David Lesuer, J. B. Clark, O. A. Hadley, H. Galloway, O. O. Baldwin.

1866-7.

Mayor, O. P. Stearns; city justice, A. Blanchard; treasurer, David Lesuer; assessor, W. D. Hurlbut; surveyor, Geo. Healy; street commissioner, David Lesuer; city attorney, C. M. Start; recorder, S. W. Eaton; marshal, I. W. Simons; poundmaster, I. W. Simons; official paper, "City Post."

First Ward: Aldermen, C. H. Chadbourn, L. Walker; justice, W. S. Booth; constable, Thomas Ireland.

Second Ward: Aldermen, Jacob Rickert, H. T. Horton; justice, A. Blanchard; constable, L. O. Benjamin.

Third Ward: Aldermen, A. Smith, John M. Cole; justice, B. H. Ellison; constable, A. M. Enoch.

Board of Education: O. P. Whitcomb, D. Lesuer, J. B. Clark, Horace Cook, H. Galloway.

1867-8.

Mayor, O. P. Stearns; city justice, A. Blanchard; treasurer, T. H. Titus; assessor, J. E. Ells; surveyor, Horace E. Horton; street commissioner, David Chase; city attorney, C. M. Start; recorder, J. A. Austin; marshal, W. H. McLard; poundmaster, W. H. McLard; official paper, "Rochester Post."

First Ward: Aldermen, J. B. Clark, C. H. Chadbourn; justice, L. L. Eaton; constable, Thomas Ireland.

Second Ward: Aldermen, C. C. Cole, Jacob Rickert; justice, A. Blanchard; constable, L. O. Benjamin.

Third Ward: Aldermen, Samuel Whitten, A. Smith; justice, N. N. Hammond; constable, B. H. Ellison.

Board of Education: C. H. Chadbourn, W. W. Mayo, O. P. Whitcomb, Horace Cook, D. Lesuer.

1868-9.

Mayor, L. B. Bliss; city justice, A. Blanchard; treasurer, T. H. Titus; assessor, J. V. Daniels; surveyor, H. E. Horton; city attorney, C. M. Start;

recorder, J. A. Austin ; marshal, L. O. Benjamin ; street commissioner, R. B. Graham ; official paper, "Rochester Post."

First Ward : Aldermen, John B. Clark, G. C. Cook ; justice, George Stocking ; constable, Thomas Ireland.

Second Ward : Aldermen, A. Gooding, C. C. Cole ; justice, A. Blanchard ; constable, L. O. Benjamin.

Third Ward : Aldermen, A. Harkins, Samuel Whitten ; justice, Wm. L. Taylor ; constable, Gordon Smith.

Board of Education : O. P. Whitcomb, John B. Clark, C. H. Chadbourn, W. W. Mayo, Horace Cook.

1869-70.

Mayor, Daniel Heaney ; city justice, A. Blanchard ; treasurer, T. H. Titus ; assessor, R. H. Gove ; street commissioner, R. B. Graham ; surveyor, H. E. Horton ; city attorney, John B. Allen ; recorder, Amos Hyatt ; marshal, L. O. Benjamin ; assistant marshal, Geo. Tilbury ; official paper, "Rochester Post."

First Ward : Aldermen, Geo. C. Cook ; J. P. Moulton ; justice, Geo. Stocking ; constable, Thomas Ireland.

Second Ward : Aldermen, C. C. Cole, A. Gooding ; justice, A. Blanchard ; constable, L. O. Benjamin.

Third Ward : Aldermen, A. Harkins, S. W. Eaton ; justice, J. H. Wright ; constable, W. H. McLard.

Board of Education : S. J. Barlow, Horace Cook, O. P. Whitcomb, W. W. Mayo, John B. Clark.

1870-1.

Mayor, F. T. Olds ; city justice, R. H. Gove ; treasurer, T. H. Titus ; assessor, James N. Coe ; surveyor, H. E. Horton ; city attorney, O. P. Stearns ; recorder, Amos Hyatt ; marshal, A. J. Wright ; street commissioner, R. B. Graham ; official paper, "Rochester Post."

First Ward : Aldermen, C. H. Kellogg, J. P. Moulton ; justice, L. L. Eaton ; constable, E. D. Cooper.

Second Ward : Aldermen, G. W. Van Dusen, C. C. Cole ; justice, R. H. Gove ; constable, A. J. Wright.

Third Ward : Aldermen, H. J. Buttles, S. W. Eaton ; justice, Wm. L. Taylor ; constable, W. H. McLard.

Board of education : E. W. Cross, John Edgar, John B. Clark, S. J. Barlow, Horace Cook.

1871-2.

Mayor, O. P. Whitcomb ; city justice, R. H. Gove ; treasurer, T. H. Titus ; assessor, James N. Coe ; surveyor, H. E. Horton ; street commissioner, G. W. Pugh ; city attorney, E. W. Denton ; recorder, Chas. Shandrew ; marshal, A. J. Wright ; assistant marshal, L. S. Howe ; official paper, "Rochester Post."

First Ward : Aldermen, T. L. Fishback, C. H. Kellogg ; justice, L. L. Eaton ; constable, E. D. Cooper.

Second Ward : Aldermen, George Baihly, G. W. Van Dusen ; justice, R. H. Gove ; constable, J. H. Wagoner.

Third Ward : Aldermen, Samuel Whitten, H. J. Buttles ; justice, Wm. L. Taylor ; constable, W. H. McLard.

Board of education, J. P. Moulton, C. S. Younglove, John Edgar, E. W. Cross, Horace Cook.

1872-3.

Mayor, George W. Van Dusen; city justice, R. H. Gove; treasurer, M. J. Daniels; assessor, James N. Coe; surveyor, George Healy; street commissioner, G. W. Pugh; city attorney, Chas. M. Start; recorder, Chas. Shandrew; marshal, A. J. Wright; assistant marshal, W. H. Lesuer; official paper, "Rochester Post."

First Ward: Aldermen, C. A. Emerson, T. L. Fishback; justice, L. L. Eaton; constable, E. D. Cooper.

Second Ward: Aldermen, W. H. Dodge, Geo. Baihly; justice, R. H. Gove; constable, M. G. Denton.

Third Ward: Aldermen, H. A. Merrill, Samuel Whitten; justice, B. H. Whitney; constable, W. H. McLard.

Board of education, E. W. Cross, John M. Cole, J. P. Moulton, John Edgar, C. S. Younglove.

1873-4.

Mayor, D. H. Williams; city justice, R. H. Gove; treasurer, C. H. Kellogg; assessor, James N. Coe; street commissioner, G. W. Pugh; surveyor, H. E. Horton; city attorney, C. T. Benedict; recorder, A. Hyatt; marshal, A. J. Wright; assistant marshal, R. Porter; official paper, "Minnesota Record."

First Ward: Aldermen, F. T. Olds, C. A. Emerson; justice, L. L. Eaton; constable, G. C. Sherman.

Second Ward: Aldermen, J. D. Blake, W. H. Dodge; justice, R. H. Gove; constable, Thomas McCabe.

Third Ward: Aldermen, W. M. Allyn, H. A. Merrill; justice, B. H. Whitney; constable, W. H. McLard.

Board of education, C. S. Younglove, W. C. Rice, E. W. Cross, John M. Cole, J. P. Moulton.

1874-5.

Mayor, D. H. Williams; city justice, James George; treasurer, C. H. Kellogg; assessor, Geo. C. Cook; surveyor, H. E. Horton; street commissioner, E. McDowell; city attorney, C. T. Benedict; recorder, Amos Hyatt; marshal, A. J. Wright; assistant marshals, John Chute, W. H. Lesuer, John Miller; official paper, "Rochester Post."

First Ward: Aldermen, A. Nelson, F. T. Olds; justice, L. L. Eaton; constable, E. D. Cooper.

Second Ward: Aldermen, O. O. Baldwin, J. D. Blake; justice, John W. Campbell; constable, T. O. McCabe.

Third Ward: Aldermen, Samuel Whitten, O. Eddy; justice, G. W. Pugh; constable, W. H. McLard.

Board of education, E. W. Cross, S. B. Clark, C. S. Younglove, W. C. Rice, John M. Cole.

1875-6.

Mayor, D. A. Morrison; city justice, James George; treasurer, C. H. Kellogg; assessor, Geo. C. Cook; surveyor, H. E. Horton; street commissioner, E. McDowell; city attorney, H. A. Eckholdt; recorder, Amos Hyatt; marshal, A. D. Robinson; assistant marshals, John Chute, W. H. Lesuer, John Miller; official paper, "Rochester Post."

First Ward: Aldermen, S. H. Daniels, A. Nelson; justice, L. L. Eaton; constable, E. D. Cooper.



Second Ward: Aldermen, R. Cornforth, O. O. Baldwin; justice, John W. Campbell; constable, none qualified.

Third Ward: Aldermen, N. B. Wilkins, Samuel Whitten; justice, G. W. Pugh; constable, W. H. McLard.

Board of education, W. A. Allen, F. H. Allen, S. B. Clark, E. W. Cross, W. C. Rice.

1876-7.

Mayor, D. A. Morrison; city justice, James George; treasurer, J. Bonham; assessor, Geo. C. Cook; surveyor, George Healy; street commissioner, D. Patterson; city attorney, H. A. Eckholdt; recorder, T. H. Bliss; marshal, A. D. Robinson; assistant marshals, W. H. Lesuer, George Tilbury, John Miller; official paper, "Rochester Post."

First Ward: Aldermen, Amos Hyatt, S. H. Daniels; justice, L. L. Eaton; constable, E. D. Cooper.

Second Ward: Aldermen, Wm. Wood, R. Cornforth; justice, James George; constable, George C. Sherman.

Third Ward: Aldermen, Samuel Whitten, N. B. Wilkins; justice, S. W. Eaton; constable, W. H. McLard.

Board of education, W. A. Allen, W. C. Rice, S. B. Clark, A. Harkins, F. H. Allen.

Board of health, N. B. Wilkins, Dr. E. W. Cross, Dr. G. W. Nichols.

For license, 481; against, 441; majority for, 40.

1877-8.

Mayor, D. A. Morrison; city justice, James George; treasurer, J. Bonham; assessor, Geo. C. Cook; surveyor, Thomas Hunter; street commissioner, D. Patterson; city attorney, R. H. Gove; recorder, A. B. Olds; marshal, Henry Kalb; assistant marshals, W. H. Lesuer, George Tilbury, John Miller; official paper, "Rochester Post."

First Ward: Aldermen, Amos Hyatt, A. D. Vedder; justice, L. L. Eaton; constable, George C. Sherman.

Second Ward: Aldermen, C. H. Morrill, A. M. Ellithorp; justice, James George; constable, Ray Fankhauser.

Third Ward: Aldermen, Sam'l Whitten, Jerry Harrington; justice, S. W. Eaton; constable, W. H. McLard.

Board of education, W. A. Allen, W. C. Rice, S. B. Clark, A. Harkins, F. H. Allen.

For license, 500; against, 583; majority against, 83.

1878-9.

Mayor, D. H. Williams; city justice, L. L. Eaton; treasurer, H. I. A. Holmen; assessor, George C. Cook; surveyor, George Healy; street commissioner, A. J. Wright; city attorney, F. B. Kellogg; recorder, A. B. Olds; marshal, Henry Kalb; assistant marshals, R. J. Fitzgerald, George Tilbury, John Miller, R. B. Clark; official paper, "Rochester Post."

First Ward: Aldermen, A. D. Vedder, Thomas Brooks; justice, L. L. Eaton; constable, Geo. C. Sherman.

Second Ward: Aldermen, A. M. Ellithorp, Moses Hurd; justice, James George; constable, Ray Fankhauser.



JOHN W. FULKERSON.



Third Ward: Aldermen, Samuel Whitten, G. W. Pugh; justice, S. W. Eaton; Constable, W. H. McLard.

Board of education, P. L. Dansingburg, W. C. Rice, S. B. Clark, A. Harkins, Horace Cook.

For license, 699; against, 464; majority for, 235.

1879-80.

Mayor, L. E. Cowdery; city justice, L. L. Eaton; treasurer, H. I. A. Holmen; assessor, Geo. C. Cook; surveyor, George Healy; street commissioner, A. J. Wright; city attorney, F. B. Kellogg; recorder, Thos. W. Neville; marshal, Henry Kalb; assistant marshals, Christ. Olson, Geo. Tilbury, W. H. Lesuer, John Miller; official paper, "Rochester Post."

First Ward: Aldermen, Thomas Brooks, A. Nelson; justice, L. L. Eaton; constable, Geo. C. Sherman.

Second Ward: Aldermen, Moses Hurd, O. S. Porter; justice, James George; constable, Ray Fankhauser.

Third Ward: Aldermen, Samuel Whitten, N. J. Shannon; justice, S. W. Eaton; constable, W. H. McLard.

Board of education, C. M. Start, P. L. Dansingburg, G. L. M. Gjertsen, S. B. Clark, Horace Cook.

For license, 588; against, 471; majority for, 117.

1880-1.

Mayor, Samuel Whitten; city justice, S. W. Eaton; treasurer, H. I. A. Holmen; assessor, Geo. C. Cook; surveyor, Thomas Hunter; street commissioner, A. J. Wright; city attorney, F. B. Kellogg; recorder, R. J. Montague, marshal, Henry Kalb; assistant marshals, W. H. Lesuer, John Sullivan, H. Loomis, George Tilbury; official paper, "Rochester Post."

First Ward: Aldermen, F. T. Olds, A. Nelson; justice, Robt. Maffett; constable, Wm. Elliott.

Second Ward: Aldermen, C. Van Campen, O. S. Porter; justice, L. O. Benjamin; constable, J. H. Wagoner.

Third Ward: Aldermen, L. Price, N. J. Shannon; justice, S. W. Eaton; constable, N. Cole.

Board of Education: P. L. Dansingburg, C. C. Willson, G. L. M. Gjertsen, M. J. Daniels, Horace Cook.

For license, 559; against, 320; majority for, 239.

1881-2.

Mayor, Samuel Whitten; city justice, S. W. Eaton; treasurer, H. I. A. Holmen; assessor, Geo. C. Cook; surveyor, Thomas Hunter; street commissioner, J. H. Wagoner; city attorney, W. Logan Brackenridge; recorder, Burt W. Eaton; marshal, Henry Kalb; assistant marshals, Horace Loomis, John Posz, W. H. Lesuer, John Miller, John Sullivan, A. T. Robinson; official paper, "Rochester Post."

First Ward: Aldermen, F. T. Olds, Amos Hyatt; justice, Robt. Maffett; constable, Geo. C. Sherman.

Second Ward: Aldermen, C. Van Campen, A. T. Stebbins; justice, L. O. Benjamin; constable, none qualified.



Third Ward: Aldermen, L. Price, N. Shannon; justice, S. W. Eaton; constable, W. H. McLard.

Board of Education: T. L. Fishback, P. L. Dansingburg, M. J. Daniels, G. L. M. Gjertsen, F. H. Allen.

For license, 530; against, 284; majority for, 246.

1882-3.

Mayor, W. W. Mayo; city justice, L. O. Benjamin; treasurer, J. Bonham; assessor, Geo. C. Cook; surveyor, Thomas Hunter; street commissioner, Chas. Streeter; city attorney, W. Logan Brackenridge; city recorder, Burt W. Eaton; marshal, Henry Kalb; assistant marshals, W. H. Lesuer, John Posz, John Miller, John Sullivan, A. T. Robinson; official paper, "Record and Union."

First Ward: Aldermen, Amos Hyatt, Henry Schuster; justice, L. L. Eaton; constable, Geo. C. Sherman.

Second Ward: Aldermen, A. T. Stebbins, O. Olsen; justice, L. O. Benjamin.

Third Ward: Aldermen, John Shannon, E. Chapman; justice, S. W. Eaton; constable, D. Wetherby.

Board of Education: T. L. Fishback, W. H. Dodge, M. J. Daniels, F. H. Allen, S. B. Howe.

No vote on license.

The following list of county officers was received after that portion of the book for which it was designed had been printed, and it is therefore inserted here as being the most appropriate place now available.—Ed.

#### JUDGES OF THE DISTRICT COURT.

The first term of the district court was held by Hon. William H. Welch, then chief-justice of the supreme court of the Territory of Minnesota, at the American Hotel, June 23, 1856.

The first term of the district court of the third judicial district of the State of Minnesota for Olmsted county was held by Hon. Thomas Wilson, judge of the district court for that district, October 20, 1858. He was elected as such judge at the October election in 1857, and held the office until 1864, when he was appointed chief justice of the supreme court of the state. In 1864 Hon. Lloyd Barber, then of Rochester, was appointed judge of that district, and elected to the same office at the November election in 1864. He held the office the full term until January 1, 1872. Hon. Chauncey N. Waterman was elected to that office in November, 1871. He held the office from January 1, 1872, until his death, February 17, 1873. Hon. John Van Dyke was appointed his successor, and held the office until January 1, 1874. Hon. William Mitchell was

elected to the office in November, 1873 ; held the office a full term, from January 1, 1874, to January 1, 1881 ; was re-elected in November, 1880 ; continued in office until his appointment as one of the associate judges of the supreme court, March 12, 1881. Hon. Charles M. Start, of Rochester, was appointed his successor ; was elected in November, 1881, and still holds the office.

## JUDGES OF THE PROBATE COURT.

Reuben Ottman, of Oronoco, held the office from the organization of Olmsted county, in 1855, until January 1, 1856 ; Hiram Thompson, from January 1, 1856, to January 1, 1858 ; Moses W. Fay, from January 1, 1858, to January 1, 1860 ; Hiram Thompson, from January 1, 1860, to January 1, 1864 ; Moses W. Fay, from January 1, 1864, to January 1, 1866 ; Reuben Reynolds, from January 1, 1866, to January 1, 1870 ; S. W. Eaton, from January 1, 1870, to January 1, 1874 ; John W. Fulkerson, from January 1, 1874, to January 1, 1878 ; Daniel S. Hibbard, from January 1, 1878, to January 1, 1879 ; Henry C. Butler, from January 1, 1879, to the present time.

## DISTRICT ATTORNEYS AND COUNTY ATTORNEYS.

Hon. Elza A. McMahon was appointed district attorney June 28, 1856, and held the office until January 1, 1858 ; Samuel Cole, of Winona, was elected prosecuting attorney of the third judicial district in October, 1857, and held the office from May 11, 1858, until January 1, 1860 ; Stiles P. Jones was appointed county attorney January 7, 1859, and held the office until January 1, 1860 ; Hon. Joseph A. Leonard was county attorney from January 1, 1860, to January 1, 1862 ; Hon. Ozoro P. Stearns, from January 1, 1862, to January 1, 1863 ; Hon. Lloyd Barber, from January 1, 1863, to the time of his appointment as judge in 1864 ; O. O. Baldwin, from January 1, 1865, to January 1, 1866 ; Hon. Ozoro P. Stearns, from January 1, 1866, to January 1, 1868 ; Hon. Charles M. Start, from January 1, 1868, to January 1, 1876 ; Henry C. Butler, from January 1, 1876, to January 1, 1878 ; Halfon A. Eckholdt, from January 1, 1878, to January 1, 1882 ; Frank B. Kellogg, from January 1, 1882, to the present time.

## CHAPTER XII.

### FIRE AND OTHER MATTERS.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT.

IN July, 1870, the fire-engine known as the Little Giant was purchased at a cost of \$9,500. In October of the same year the engine-house was completed. The building is situated on the mill-race south of Olds & Fishback's mill; a solid stone wall on either side of the race gives it a solid foundation, over an exhaustless supply of water.

The organization of the fire department was delayed by difficulties usually encountered by public enterprises until December, 1870.

The engine company, as first organized, consisted of the following named officers and members: Geo. C. Cook, foreman; S. H. Daniels, first assistant; Henry Schuster, second assistant; Oscar Cobb, secretary, and the following members: W. G. Bartley, J. W. Everstine, Jacob Joest, H. M. Kellog, Henry Lawshee, A. Ozmun, Charles Whitney, C. H. Chadbourne, Oscar Cobb, George Bunce, Mat. Markham, Nath. Cross, Chas. Rommell, L. Harris, E. W. Crocker, J. H. Groesbeck, George W. Van Dusen, O. P. Stearns, Chas. Shandrew, J. P. Moulton, Henry Kalb, Wm. Eaton, Wm. Brown, Dan Markham, Stephen Ives, and E. D. Swartwood.

A separate company was organized to take charge of each hose carriage. The Night Hawk Hose Company elected the following officers: C. H. Kellogg, foreman; George E. Leonard, first assistant; Amos Hyat, second assistant, C. H. Bliss, secretary. The Turner Hose Company elected G. Hargesheimer, foreman; J. Levy, first assistant; J. Brendemuehl, second assistant; John Timm, secretary. The Independent Hose Company elected E. D. Cooper, foreman; G. W. Graves, first assistant; F. T. Olds, second assistant; T. L. Fishback, secretary.

The present officers are as follows: Thomas P. Hall, chief of department; Chas. Streeter, chief engineer; — Wilson, assistant. Engine Co.: E. D. Swartwood, foreman; Henry Schuster, assistant foreman; Chas. Crandall, secretary; Henry Kalb, treasurer. Hose Co. No. 1: Amos Hyatt, foreman; J. Egel, first assistant

foreman ; R. Riebe, secretary ; William Searls, treasurer. Hose No. 2: Charles Steward, foreman ; J. W. Bailhley, first assistant foreman ; Charles Chadburne, second assistant ; William Smith, secretary ; Fred Van Duesen, treasurer. Hose No. 3: Jacob Wagnor, foreman ; John Hooeks, first assistant foreman ; Harry Phelps, second assistant foreman ; Fred Rommel, secretary ; O. C. Backer, treasurer. Alert Hook and Ladder Co. : Fred Wagner, foreman ; L. Kelly, secretary and treasurer. Tiger Hook and Ladder Co. : Chas. Wedge, foreman ; W. S. Parker, first assistant ; F. Reek, second assistant ; Fred Manley, secretary and treasurer.

## BOARD OF TRADE.

In September, 1881, a meeting of the business men of Rochester was held at the Cook House for the purpose of organizing a body by the above name, and the following named officers elected : A. Ozmun, president ; F. T. Olds, first vice-president ; E. Damon, second vice-president ; John W. Booth, secretary ; A. T. Stebbins, secretary.

The object of the organization will be understood from the following preamble : "The business men of the city of Rochester having a desire to promote just and equitable principles in trade, to discover and correct abuses, to unite the community for the purpose of advancing and increasing the mercantile, manufacturing, shipping and other interests, of the city of Rochester, to acquire, preserve and disseminate valuable information, and to promote the interests of our city, do hereby adopt the following constitution," etc.

After the organization of the board, the following standing committees were elected : 1. A committee of five on manufactories. 2. A committee of three on city and county affairs. 3. A committee of three on state of trade. 4. A committee of three on legislation. 5. A committee of five on transportation and routes. 6. A committee of four on agriculture. 7. A committee of three on educational interests. 8. A committee of five on public buildings and parks. 9. A committee of three on finance. 10. A committee on membership.

The present officers are as follows : E. Damon, president ; C. H. Roberts, vice-president ; H. T. Hannon, secretary ; M. J. Daniels, treasurer.

## CRIME AND CASUALTY.

The first tragedy committed in Rochester occurred in the spring of 1858. A man named Ashenhurst was stabbed, from the effects



of which he died. A saloon located near the present site of Rommell's meat market was the scene of the tragedy.

In March, 1866, the First National Bank was entered by burglars, during the absence of the gentleman who usually slept there, the safe door blown off and about two thousand dollars in gold and currency taken. The robbers were captured shortly afterward by sheriff Loomis.

On the morning of January 26, 1867, a man named Delano walked into a drug store and purchased some strychnine, after which he went to his shop on Zumbro street and swallowed the poison. He was taken to the Stephens House, where he boarded, and Dr. Mayo summoned to attend him. By the time that gentleman reached him, however, he was found to be beyond human aid, and death soon overtook him.

On the night of February 12, 1867, some burglars entered the court-house by forcing open the east door. They entered the treasurers' office and blew open the safe, securing about fifty dollars in money. The drawers of the safe, containing several thousand dollars' worth of valuable papers, were afterward found secreted in a wood-pile near the building.

On Saturday night, February 27, 1869, a man lying sick with smallpox at Denrick's Hotel escaped from his nurse and jumped into the Zumbro river, below Cole's mill. The body was found some days after lodged under the ice. The name of the unfortunate man was Hamilton. He had been in Rochester but a short time, during which he was engaged in various pursuits.

In August, 1866, the Zumbro river was swollen by continuous rains. On Sunday night, the 5th, and Monday the 6th, the stream rose with unusual rapidity. On the 7th, from four till seven o'clock, it rose more rapidly than was ever known. It was transformed from a rippling brook to a mad rushing torrent carrying every movable thing before it. Several families living on the flat west of the river experienced a very narrow escape. They were aroused at four o'clock in the morning by the seething flood that by that time had reached a depth of over a foot in their dwellings. Being cut off from the mainland, they climbed trees. One little oak afforded a place of refuge for a Mr. Carrol and family, consisting of five persons, a Mr. Sullivan, his wife and two children, a Mr. and Mrs. Williamson and their daughter. A few hours later, however, they were seen and rescued from their perilous

position. Most of the houses in east Rochester were deserted. The new pier for College-street bridge was struck by the wreck of another bridge, being carried down on the bosom of the angry flood and nearly ruined. The outside of Olds' millrace and bulkhead was badly washed, and Cole's race also sustained considerable damage. Elsewhere the damage and loss of property was great.

In August, 1869, the Wabasha stage left the stage-house in Rochester en route for the former named city. A boy named August Menot was driving, and Mr. Nathaniel Wentworth, of Plainview, was a passenger. On reaching Silver creek they found that stream terribly swollen from heavy rains on the previous nights.

The boy drove upon the bridge, but, on seeing the angry flood beyond, decided not to cross. Mr. Wentworth, however, insisted upon making the attempt, and, seizing the lines, urged the horses into the rushing torrent. The horses immediately went beyond their depth, and with the stage were born rapidly down stream. The boy in the meantime clung to the seat, which had been washed off, and, with the mail-bag in his hand, succeeded in reaching the shore: Mr. Wentworth was carried down stream for some distance, and finally sank to rise no more. The horses were also drowned.

On June 22, 1871, a white boy named Stephens, employed at the Climax barber-shop, shot and killed a negro named James Willis. On the following February Stephens was sent to the penitentiary for a term of four years and three months.

On the night of February 28, 1877, the residence of James Fitzpatrick was entered by burglars, and among other articles stolen were some very valuable papers, amounting in all to several thousand dollars.

On the night of April 24 he was aroused from his slumbers by a loud knock at his door. On answering the summons he stood face to face with a tall muscular man, who asked him to come out. He refused to do so and the midnight visitor stepped in at the door and began at once to disclose the object of his visit. He stated that he had been employed by the parties who had entered Fitzpatrick's house, to ascertain how much he would give for the return of the valuable papers taken. The terms were agreed upon, and a place of meeting selected where the bargain was to be consummated. The spot named was on the Salem road near Stenger's centennial beer-garden, and the time, ten o'clock on the following day. Early the following morning, Fitzpatrick went to county

attorney Start and sheriff Ellison, informing them of facts detailed above, and long before the appointed hour these gentlemen, with one or two others, was secreted near the spot where the strange interview was to take place. Fitzpatrick started out on foot and alone, as per agreement, and met his strange visitor, who had hidden among the trees a hundred rods nearer town than the place agreed upon. The missing papers were produced, and a part of the money was in the robber's hands when sheriff Ellison came driving down the road. At this juncture Fitzpatrick cried out "Thief! thief! take him!" but in an instant the wary robber rushed through the trees and underbrush and was soon lost from view. In spite of the effort of his pursuers he eluded them and has never been captured. He exhibited great cunning in changing the place of meeting, as it completely nonplused the officers.

In the early part of June, 1879, the city of Owatonna was visited by a gang of burglars. On Thursday night two of them stopped at a private boarding-house in Kasson, where they were arrested; one of them, however, escaped. Saturday night village marshal P. J. Schwarg, of Kasson, who had "spotted" one of the gang, followed him to Rochester, reaching here at four o'clock Sunday morning. Finding marshal Kalb, he informed him of his errand, and that his man was at the Norton House. Schwarg went to the Winona House, while Kalb immediately started for the Norton House to make the arrest. Meeting the thief at the dining-room door, he quietly informed him that he wished to see him down town on important business. Looking up quickly the man asked, "Are you an officer?" Being answered in the affirmative, he walked along with the marshal chatting very pleasantly until they reached the corner of Broadway and Fifth streets, when instead of turning toward the Winona House he advanced a few steps down Broadway and, turning quickly, presented a cocked revolver at the marshal's face, saying, "You go!" The sentence was very concise, but, emphasized by a gleaming weapon and a cool, wicked eye behind it, was full of meaning. The marshal quickly reached for his revolver; as he did so the burglar fired, the ball grazing the officer's cheek. Kalb returned the compliment, but missed his aim. The thief started to run around the corner of Mueller's grocery and stumbled over a bench. Kalb followed him, and the thief, still on his knees, with his back to the officer, fired again, but, owing to his position when pulling the trigger, the ball went wide of its mark. Almost simultaneously with

this report another rang out, and a ball from Kalb's pistol penetrated the body of the bandit, entering at the shoulder. He tried to rise, but with blood gushing from his mouth and nostrils fell back, and in a moment was dead. Thus ended the career of Dan Ganey, a cutthroat and gambler.

On the body of the thief was found a pioneer revolver, 38-calibre, a gold hunting-case watch, stolen at Owatonna, some burglars' tools and some valuable jewelry belonging to Hon. C. K. Davis, of St. Paul, which had been stolen from his house some weeks before. His home was found to be in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, where a widowed mother and other relatives reside. Shortly after the occurrence the citizens of Rochester presented the marshal with a handsome gold watch, as a token of their appreciation of his bravery.

#### FIRES.

On the morning of October 24, 1866, a double frame building on College street, near Broadway, belonging to Mr. A. Lasuer, was consumed by fire. Loss, five thousand dollars, with no insurance. On Friday, February 24, 1868, a two-story frame building on College street, belonging to Mrs. Olds, was burned. Loss, \$2,000, and no insurance.

On the night of January 17, 1870, a fire broke out in Koonsmuller's boot and shoe store, on the west side of Broadway, which proved very disastrous, five stores being devoured by the destroying element before it stopped in its career. The losses, as near as can be ascertained, were as follows: Koonsmuller's boot and shoe store, property destroyed to amount of \$15,000, insurance \$9,000; Crocker & Younglove, grocers, stock \$6,000, insurance \$3,500, loss on building \$500; Holliday, confectionery, loss \$500, no insurance; Ozmun & Sons, hardware, stock \$20,000, with \$14,500 insurance, loss on building \$3,000, insurance \$1,000; E. Damon & Co., jewelry, stock \$5,000, but mostly saved, loss on building \$1,500.

On the night of April 3, 1870, a row of frame buildings known as Leland's block, were destroyed by fire, which originated in Chute's saloon. Loss on building was \$3,000 to \$4,000, and about the same on goods.

On April 16, 1871, the American House took fire and was burned to the ground. Goodell & Hammond were at that time proprietors. The loss on building was estimated at \$6,000, insurance \$3,600.



April 25, 1871, the brewery belonging to Henry Schuster, was burned. Loss \$6,000, insurance \$4,200. Before the smoke had ceased to ascend from the ruins, however, Mr. Schuster had begun work on a new building, which he now occupies.

On Friday, June 13, 1873, a livery stable on College street, owned by Cook Bros., together with a large amount of fixtures and five head of horses, was burned. Their loss footed up about \$5,000 and the property was not insured.

On the night of September 19, 1875, Cascade brewery, located in the northeastern part of town, was destroyed by fire. The loss being about \$2,500, a little over half of which was covered by insurance. The property was owned by Mrs. Neuffer.

On the morning of February 27, 1876, a blacksmith-shop and a restaurant adjoining were burned. The former was owned by Hohler Bros., and the latter by Remondino. Entire loss, \$3,500.

The Stephens House, located on Main street, was the next building destroyed by the fire-fiend. The loss was \$3,000 to \$4,000, and insurance \$1,500. Peirson & Slaven were proprietors.

On September 3, 1878, a fire broke out in David Lasuer's old store building on Broadway, which destroyed that and three adjoining buildings, belonging respectively to Moses Tyler, Rommell Bros. and Thomas Hunter.

On February 12, 1879, the livery stable belonging to Henry Clarke, in north Rochester, was burned, together with eight valuable horses. Loss \$3,000, no insurance.

May 4, 1880, a building belonging to George Stoppel was burned. Loss \$800, no insurance.

On April 26, 1882, three frame buildings on the west side of Broadway, near College street, owned by Horace A. Brown, and a double wooden structure known as the Mair block, were burned.

On June 30, 1883, the Bradley House, located on the south side of College street, east of the Zumbro, and occupied by Horace Loomis, was consumed by fire. The building belonged to the Bradley estate, and was insured for \$1,500. The kitchen of this building (the blackened logs of which were still visible after the fire) once constituted an entire hotel, having been erected for that purpose by Albert Stevens in 1855.

#### MANUFACTURING INTERESTS.

Manufacturing is as yet in its infancy in Rochester, but with the great lumbering district on the north, with rich farming country on

every hand, with good facilities for transportation and with good water-power, we see no reason why she should not in the future take a prominent place among the manufacturing towns of Minnesota.

Prominent among the manufactories at present existing are the Zumbro mills; John M. Cole, proprietor. This mill was erected in 1879, being  $48 \times 76$  in size, and 75 feet in height; capacity, 200 barrels per 24 hours. Twelve men are employed to operate it. The institution is supplied with all the modern improvements in machinery, and the proprietor is at present putting in a Harris-Corliss engine, which will double the power and capacity of the mill.

The large stone mill owned by Olds & Fishback was erected in 1857, being one of the first in the county. The building is  $46 \times 72$  in size, and three stories high. The capacity of this mill is about one hundred barrels per day.

The cockle mill factory promises to become a very important acquisition to the manufacturing interests of Rochester, LaDue & King are the proprietors.

The only planing mill in the city is owned by Buttles & Kepner, on South Broadway.

Oleson & Larsen, proprietors of the Northwestern Wagon Works, are doing a thriving business in their line. The works were established in 1868. The building is  $75 \times 46$  in size, three stories high, built of stone, and cost \$7,000. These gentlemen employ twelve to fifteen men, and manufacture about one hundred lumber wagons, and fifty spring wagons and buggies per year.

The Cascade mills owned by Lyman Tondro are located in the northern part of the town, and are doing a prosperous business.

On Bear creek, about one mile from the center of the city are the woolen mills owned by Joseph Alexander. They were established in 1872. The cost of the machinery now in use was about \$6,000. The mills are operated about seven months in the year, and convert into blankets, flannels and stockings about one hundred pounds of wool per day.

T. P. Hall & Co. are doing a good business in wagon and carriage making. Henry Schuster, proprietor of Rochester Brewery, is also doing well. Besides the above-named enterprises there are two machine shops, and a number of smaller enterprises which lack of space forbids us to mention.

## CHAPTER XIII.

### CHURCHES.

*Congregational Church.*—The site where Rochester now stands was first visited by white people, with a view to settlement, in the spring of 1854. The first public religious service was held in December of the same year.

About the middle of January, 1855, Rev. Robert Welch, a Free Will Baptist minister, came to Rochester and preached most of the time till about the middle of the June following, when Rev. Reuben Reynolds, a Congregational minister, from Michigan, came into the place, and the meetings were given up to him. Mr. Thomas Tait, a licensed Congregational preacher from Scotland, and Mr. E. C. Burnham, also a Congregational licentiate, occasionally shared the labor of preaching with Mr. Reynolds.

The first movement toward the organization of a Congregational church in Rochester was begun soon after the arrival of Mr. Reynolds; but he, having adopted principles that were not considered evangelical, and endeavoring to establish the proposed church on what was claimed as the "Broad Basis," failed to unite the Congregational interest in the movement.

A society was, however, formed under his lead, which was called "The First Congregational Church and Society of Rochester." This was in the summer of 1857. About the first of September of that year, Rev. Elias Clark came to Rochester, under the auspices of the American Home Missionary Society, and took charge of the Congregational interest in the place.

Soon after Mr. Clark came it was decided to proceed without regard to any previous organization, and form a church that should be in doctrinal fellowship and sympathy with the orthodox Congregational churches of the country. Accordingly, on January 3, 1858, a meeting was held in a log schoolhouse, which stood some twenty rods southeast from College-street bridge, and the present Congregational church of Rochester, consisting of twelve members, was duly organized.

Rev. Mr. Clark continued preaching regularly to the church and

congregation, until September, 1860, when he removed to another field.

From that time till February 1, 1861, the church had only occasional preaching. From the 1st of February Rev. H. H. Morgan supplied the church for three months. In June of the same year Mr. J. S. Whitman, then recently licensed to preach, was engaged to supply the pulpit. He was ordained to the work of the ministry September 8, 1861, and continued in charge of the church until May, 1862, when he was called to labor elsewhere.

The church was without regular preaching from this time till the 15th of November in the same year, when Rev. William R. Stevens commenced labor as acting pastor of the church, which place he continued to fill till the middle of November, 1866, when his health failed, and he was obliged to relinquish his work. From this time he steadily and rapidly declined, till he entered peacefully into his rest, January 15, 1867.

Immediately after the close of Mr. Stevens' labor — November 1866—the church employed Rev. A. Fuller as stated supply, which place he regularly filled till October 8, 1867, when he was installed the first pastor of the church.

This office he occupied till July 1, 1874, when he resigned to enter the foreign missionary work.

Rev. N. C. Chapin followed. He was called August 1, 1874, and acted as pastor of the church till January 26, 1876, when he resigned.

After Mr. Chapin's removal, the church was without a pastor, until the coming of Rev. Geo. P. Blanchard, in January, 1877. Mr. Blanchard was installed pastor of the church, July 11, 1877, and continued to discharge the duties of that office until his resignation, July 1, 1879.

In October following the church extended a call to Rev J. W. Bradshaw, who entered upon his duties December 14, 1879.

On June 29, 1880, Mr. Bradshaw was regularly installed as pastor, which office he continues to fill.

The first religious meetings, of which mention has been made, were held in the log dwelling-house—also used as a tavern—of Mr. George Head. The house stood on the south side of College street, where Broadway now is. Meetings were also held about this time, in the house of Mr. Robert Welch, above named.

Some time in the summer of 1855 meetings began to be held in



the new log schoolhouse, which stood some twenty rods southeast from College-street bridge. This was the regular place of meeting until December, 1857, when the basement of the (then) new court-house (now the Broadway House, standing on the west side of Broadway, near the railroad) was so far completed as to be occupied for that purpose. From about that time, the church continued to occupy the court-house for regular meetings, until its own house of worship was so far completed as to be used for that purpose.

The work of church building was begun in the summer of 1863.

A contribution, amounting to about \$1,500, was made by the friends of the enterprise in Rochester, and the acting pastor of the church, Rev. W. R. Stevens, went east to solicit aid in the work, and succeeded in obtaining about \$1,700, besides a pledge of \$500 from the Congregational Union, to pay last bills. This, it was believed, was sufficient to secure the completion of the house, with the aid of a further contribution, which it was proposed to solicit in Rochester.

Accordingly two lots were purchased, on the corner of Franklin and Zumbro streets, the foundation of the church laid, and the walls partially erected.

In the spring of 1864 the work was renewed, and the walls completed; but before the building was secured by a roof, a tornado swept over the town, and left the work in ruins.

By this calamity the society incurred a direct loss of about \$1,500; but as the price of labor and building material were more than doubled at this time, on account of the war, the rebuilding of the walls necessitated an increased expenditure of about \$4,000. The discouragement of the society in these circumstances cannot easily be realized.

It was, however, at once resolved that the work must go on, and Mr. Stevens once more went east to solicit aid, and again succeeded in raising about \$1,700. With this and the additional money raised in the town, the building was inclosed, and was first used for religious service though in a very unfinished state, some time in December of 1864. In the following year money was contributed and borrowed, so that the building was nearly completed. It was not, however, fully furnished until the fall of 1866.

The entire cost of the building, including \$400 expended by the

ladies in upholstering and furnishing, was not far from \$9,500. Of this sum something over \$3,300 had been received from abroad, and \$500 more were pledged to pay last bills ; leaving about \$5,700 raised, and to be raised by the society in Rochester.

In December, 1866, the whole indebtedness of the society, including accumulated interest, was found to be nearly \$2,500, besides the amount covered by the pledge of the Congregational Union.

It had also become necessary for the church to relinquish the aid, which it had hitherto received from the American Home Missionary Society, and to assume the entire support of its pastor. After a hard struggle this was finally accomplished, and the church building was dedicated free from incumbrance, in January, 1867. Subsequently it was found necessary to make some improvements, and to provide for other liabilities of the society ; so that during the year 1868, a mortgage of \$1,200 was put up on the house, which was removed in January, 1872, and the church is at present without incumbrance.

The growth of the church, for the greater part of the time since its organization, has been constant and healthful.

No very extensive revivals have been enjoyed by the church, though there were seasons of marked interest, and a good number of conversions during each of the years 1866, 1867, 1869, 1872 and 1873. The church, during its history, has received 326 members, 122 by profession and 204 by letter. Its present membership is 151.

The Sunday-school, early established in connection with the church, has had an interesting history. Its growth has been encouraging, and it has contributed greatly to the progress of the church. From among its members have come many of those who have united with the church on confession of their faith.

The school at present has about 100 scholars and 16 teachers, and is in a prosperous condition.

*Protestant Episcopal Church.*—The first services of the Episcopal Church were held in Rochester, by Bishop Kemper, in the summer of 1858. Rev. D. P. Sanford visited Rochester and held services and administered the holy communion to five or six communicants, in Morton Hall, January 2, 1859. Calvary parish, the present name of the church society, was organized under Rev. Chas. Woodward, missionary in charge, June 7, 1860. In 1861 he secured five lots on Zumbro street for a site, and in the fall of 1862 the corner stone of

Calvary chapel was laid by him, and a brick edifice built in the following year, which was finally completed and consecrated by Bishop Whipple, in January, 1866. Rev. Mr. Woodward continued his faithful labors until the following summer, when he resigned. He was succeeded by Rev. W. J. Johnstone, a very popular preacher, under whom the church was enlarged, incurring a large debt. During the enlargement of the building he resigned, and the heavy debt was continued for years, until finally discharged through the indefatigable labors of the ladies' aid society of the parish. The following succeeded Rev. Mr. Johnstone as rectors, each serving their terms, faithfully: Rev. David P. Sanford took charge March 13, 1869, resigned July 10, 1870; Rev. A. Spor took charge August 15, 1870, resigned June 30, 1872; Rev. A. W. Seabreeze took charge May 1, 1872, resigned March 27, 1875; Rev. J. F. Walker took charge May 30, 1875, resigned September 24, 1876; Rev. J. K. Karchor took charge September 16, 1877, resigned September 15, 1878; Rev. Chas. I. Coer, took charge December 1, 1878, resigned March 1, 1882. The parish has lost many members by removals elsewhere, but is still a live parish, having the active support of a noble band of workers in the Ladies' Parish Aid Society, and its future assured by a faithful, zealous Sunday-school.

*First Presbyterian Church.*—In the fall of 1858 Rev. D. C. Lyon settled in Winona, and during the following summer the Rev. Sheldon Jackson moved to La Crescent, Houston county. These two ministers, with Rev. Harvey Chapin, at Owatonna, were the pioneers of the Old School Presbyterian church in southern Minnesota. It was during a missionary tour that Mr. Jackson reached Rochester, on January 27, 1861. Finding a few who had been connected with Presbyterian churches in other places he agreed to remain and preach for them on the following Sabbath. The services were held in the old court-house.

On February 9 Rev. J. C. Caldwell, missionary for the synod of St. Paul, visited the place and preached on the following sabbath. Learning that Mr. Jackson was to return that week, he remained, and on the arrival of Mr. Jackson, the two began canvassing, the result of which was a call for a meeting for the purpose of organizing a church.

On Sunday, February 17, 1861, in Morton's Hall, the Presbyterian church of Rochester was organized with four members, these being Mrs. John R. Cook, Mr. and Mrs. Robert McBride, and

Mr. John H. Hyatt. Two weeks later Mrs. Elizabeth Hyatt and Mr. and Mrs. George Miller were added to the list. Mr. Miller was elected the first ruling elder. Mr. Jackson preached for the new congregation until the services of Rev. Robert F. Taylor. Owing to ill-health he was compelled to relinquish his charge after six months labor, and finally died in Ohio in 1866.

In January, 1862, the church invited the Rev. George Anslie to become their pastor. He entered upon his labors with enthusiasm, begotten by his early training among the Choctaw Indians. Seeking to reach the destitute neighborhoods in the vicinity, he found the labors increasing to such an extent as to be beyond his power to accomplish, and he accordingly asked that a call might be made to the Rev. Sheldon Jackson to become co-pastor with him and take charge of the city work of the church, in order that he might give more of his attention to missionary labor. Accordingly a call was made out in March, 1864, for the services of Mr. Jackson, which was accepted.

From this time the church entered upon an enlarged sphere of action. Immediate steps were taken toward raising funds for the purpose of erecting a church building. Mr. Jackson went east to solicit funds from the eastern churches, and returned with \$5,000.

In the fall of 1865 the building (36×62) was completed at a cost of \$8,000, and on the first sabbath of January, 1866, was dedicated to the worship of God.

During the fall of 1865 the manse was erected at the rear of the church, and a fifteen-hundred-pound bell placed in the church tower. The latter was presented by the first Presbyterian church of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. Rev. J. T. Killen, formerly of Green Bay, Wisconsin, succeeded Mr. Jackson in 1868. In 1873 Mr. H. A. Newell succeeded him.

In 1882 Rev. Cyrus A. Hampton was employed as pastor of the church. The present membership is about 110, and the average attendance in Sunday-school about the same number.

*Methodist Church.*—The first sermon preached by a Methodist minister in Rochester, was by the Rev. Nelson Moon, in the winter of 1855–6. The meeting was held at the house of a Mr. Crabb, in the southern part of what is now Rochester.

Early in the spring of 1856, a log schoolhouse was built in East Rochester, and a Sunday-school was organized. Meetings were held in the building during the summer and until July, 1858, when the old court-house was engaged for the purpose.



The Minnesota conference was organized at Red Wing in July 1856, and Rev. Joshua M. Rodgers, of Indiana conference, was sent to "Oronoco Mission" which embraced Oronoco, Pine Island, Greenwood Prairie, Mantorville and Rochester. This was the first church organized in Rochester. Mr. Emerick was the first trustee and among the first stewards. The first quarterly meeting was held February 14 and 15, 1857. Mr. Rodgers continued his labors here until the session of conference at Winona in July, 1857, when Rev. S. N. Forest was appointed to take charge of Rochester circuit.

In 1858 the lots were purchased and partly given by Mr. Dorr, a building was erected and inclosed for a chapel, but it was soon found too small and Morton Hall was engaged. After the death of Mr. Forest, which occurred in the spring of 1859, Mr. Phoebus, George Stocking and others supplied the pulpit until conference, when Rev. Ezra Tucker was appointed to this charge. He remained two years and was then succeeded by Rev. G. W. F. Wright. Rev. Chambers succeeded Mr. Wright. In the fall of 1864 the foundation of the present building was laid, and in 1865 the building was erected and inclosed so that the basement was occupied as a place of worship November 12, 1865. At the time of its construction it was one of the largest and best Methodist church buildings in the state. The total cost being \$19,300.

At the conference of 1865, Rev. Norris Hobart was assigned to this charge, and remained two years; he was succeeded by Rev. A. J. Nelson. During 1867 the audience-room was finished and dedicated by Rev. E. R. Lathrop, and the annual conference was held here. At the conference of 1868, held in St. Anthony, Rev. D. Cobb was appointed to Rochester. He was succeeded by Rev. W. C. Rice, who remained two years, and the succeeding three years traveled this district as presiding elder. In the fall of 1872, at the close of Mr. Rice's first term, Rev. E. R. Lathrop was appointed pastor of the church. He remained but a short time when conference met and he was sent as presiding elder of the St. Cloud district, and Rev. H. P. Satchwell was sent to this charge. In 1875 Rev. W. C. Rice was appointed pastor, and remained three years, the full conference limit.

In 1878 the building so long used, first as a chapel in 1858, and since then as a parsonage, was moved away and the present building erected at a cost of \$3,500.

In the fall of 1878 Rev. J. Whisler was transferred from the Ohio conference and stationed at Rochester. At the session of conference in 1880, Rev. C. E. Cline, of Southern Illinois conference, was transferred and appointed pastor at Rochester. He was succeeded by Rev. Stafford, who is the present pastor. Early in the year 1856 the Sunday school was organized, with J. P. Emerick as superintendent, and twenty scholars; it has now an average attendance of about two hundred pupils.

*First Baptist Church.*—On a beautiful day in June, 1857, some half dozen members of Baptist churches in the east were gathered in a log cabin in East Rochester.

Mr. J. P. Gurr was chairman and Mr. C. F. Anderson clerk of the meeting.

From that time regular meetings were held in the old log school-house, but the organization was not perfected until August 22.

Seventeen persons constituted the original membership,—a little band, but the captain was the Lord of Hosts.

On the day that their organization was completed Rev. E. Wescott was chosen as pastor, with a salary of \$600, one half to be paid by the church and the other by the A. B. H. M. Society. This society continued its aid as was needed until the close of the year 1862; although as early as 1859, and while still struggling for life, the church began monthly collections in aid of the H. M. Society and the state convention, and has since many times repaid the help received. Four days after its completed organization, August 26, the church was sitting in council with the Southern Minnesota association, convened at Richland, of which body it is still a member. As soon as the territorial statutes could be complied with, the society was placed upon a legal basis.

In October following the church commenced holding service in their new room, Morton Hall, on Main street. At the opening of the year 1858, the membership had increased to twenty-five. At this time a Sunday-school was organized which still exists, and in a flourishing condition.

On the 6th of February of this year the ordinance of baptism was administered for the first time. The church, numbering thirty-eight, now resolved to build a house of worship. A lot on the south side of Zumbro street, near the river, was donated by one of the members, on condition that it be occupied as the site of a church, and in September of that year, held their covenant meeting in the

new church. The building was of wood, 30×40 feet, and was erected at a cost of \$1,200.

To the only remaining constituent member we are indebted for some reminiscences not found in the written record, among which is the following: "To the hearts of those still living, how dear is the memory of the plain little church on the bank of the river, with its two unprotected doors facing the north, just inside of which stood two iron stoves puffing and sending out their heat, which centered in a drum just over the preacher's head, where he stood upon a square of oilcloth, and preached such sermons as laid the foundations of our churches, our Sunday schools, our missionary societies, and our denominational schools!" Although increased in numbers and with but little that looks like divided counsels, there came difficulties to be overcome and trials and disappointments to endure. In May, 1859, at a church meeting, a proposition was made and discussed to dispense with the services of a pastor during the ensuing year. This proposal did not meet with favor, but the pastor accepted a salary reduced to \$400, and in the latter part of the year the church was obliged to borrow \$400 to liquidate the debt incurred in building the chapel. February, 1859, there is a joyous entry on the record. A revival is in progress and ten are added to the church, some of whom are still with us.

In July, 1860, Rev. E. Wescott closed his pastorate, leaving the church with at least fourfold its original membership. During this month J. Mendal was licensed to preach by the church, and was soon transferred to a charge in Wisconsin. In March, 1868, arrangements were made for securing a parsonage. By entertainments of various kinds, the ladies have raised means for current expenses, purchased and kept the parsonage in repair, paid for the masons' and carpenters' work in the lecture-room, besides furnishing carpeting and lamps—all amounting to several hundred dollars.

In April, 1868, Rev. D. N. Mason resigned his charge, and again the church was without a pastor, but in November, 1868, Rev. L. A. Abbott entered upon his labors as pastor, and, under his ministrations, the congregations increased in size, and both church and Sunday school acquired new activity and strength.

At a special business meeting in February, 1869, the subject of building a new house of worship was taken into consideration, and \$8,000 having been decided upon as the base of operations, a subscription paper was started and \$3,500 was at once subscribed. At

this time it was decided to devote every alternate covenant meeting to business purposes, and to institute an annual social and covenant meeting, designed to gather in the whole membership, personally or by report, and ascertain their spiritual standing.

At a business meeting, April, 1870, it was decided to make application to the Baptist Home Mission Society for a loan of \$2,000 from the church edifice fund to aid in completing the new house of worship, for which note and mortgage should be given as required by the by-laws of the fund.

The church was dedicated January 1, 1871. It has a beautiful and central site, embracing two lots on the corner of Franklin and Fourth streets. It is of brick, with stone basement, 70×40 feet, and was built at a cost of \$16,500.

In July of this year, Rev. Mr. Abbott offered his resignation, and in February, 1873, was succeeded by Rev. R. Telford.

At a special meeting, December 12, 1873, a finance committee was appointed to conduct the financial affairs of the church.

The Woman's Foreign Mission Society was organized during the year 1873, by Mrs. L. B. Telford. Among the early and faithful workers are found the names of Mrs. T. W. Stebbins, Mrs. Margaret Kent, Mrs. M. Collins, Mrs. Goodale, Mrs. C. F. Anderson and Miss H. Messenger. The society has steadily increased in strength and interest, and has now connected with it a mission band, presided over by Miss C. O. Severance. For five years the Woman's Society supported a Bible reader in China under Miss Fielde, and has since, in connection with the mission band, aided in the support of Miss Fielde.

Rev. Mr. Telford closed his pastoral connection with the church in February, 1874, and, in July, was succeeded by Rev. C. H. Remington, who held the office until July 1, 1877. In August, Rev. R. W. Arnold, of Ripon, Wisconsin, was settled as pastor. The ensuing winter a series of meetings was held, and thirty-two converts were received into the church. In May, 1878, after morning service, and in response to an appeal from the pastor, the remaining indebtedness of the church was provided for by a subscription of \$48. During the following winter thirty-three were added to the church by baptism. From that time to the present the church has enjoyed great prosperity. There have been other revivals in which large accessions were made, but the inexorable tide of emigration has taken away faster than gains could be made.



The pastorate by Rev. R. W. Arnold closed November 1, and the church is now without a pastor. During the years of his ministry, one hundred and sixteen have been added to the church, mostly by baptism. During the entire history of the church there have been five hundred and sixty-four connected with its membership; two hundred and sixty have been baptized; present membership, two hundred and fifteen. Of the original members, none remain in its connection; of its early members, but few are left.

#### UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY.

In the spring of 1860 Rev. J. M. Westfall, then of Lafayette, Indiana, came to Rochester and preached the first Universalist sermon ever delivered in Olmsted county. An informal organization of Universalism was effected at Rochester soon after Mr. Westfall's removal here, the society numbering about forty members. Meetings were held in Compton's Hall (now Porter House) every alternate sabbath, the pastor preaching at Mantorville, Cascade, Spring Valley, and other places, on the intervening sabbaths. Services in the city were well attended, but the war coming on and a large number of the young men of the society enlisting in the service, the interest in the movement began to decline, and in the fall of 1863 Mr. Westfall removed from the place and meetings were entirely suspended. In January, 1866, another effort was made to establish Universalism at Rochester. At the suggestion of Rev. H. Bisbee and Rev. S. Barnes, Universalist ministers at St. Paul and St. Anthony (now Minneapolis) respectively, a two days' meeting was appointed to be held on the 23d and 24th days of that month. Rev. S. Wakefield, pastor at Elkador, Iowa, with much difficulty, battling with snow-drifts and cutting wintry winds, made his way by team to Rochester, and he and Rev. S. W. Eaton, resident at Rochester, were the only clergymen present at the meeting. The meetings were held in the Congregational church, the use of which had been kindly granted to the Universalist people for the occasion. The congregations were not large, but an interest in the cause was awakened which culminated in the organization of a Universalist society early in the March following. The society organized with about thirty members, which number was increased soon after to over fifty. Mr. Wakefield was the unanimous choice of the society as pastor, and he removed to Rochester the same spring and entered upon the discharge of his pastoral duties. The society rented the

upper room of the old court-house building on Broadway, where services were held every sabbath, morning and evening. A sabbath school was soon organized, with rising of thirty scholars. The school was well provided with a small though well selected library, together with a good collection of singing, service and class books. In this connection it is proper to state that the school has been kept up from its organization to the present time. In point of attendance, interest and efficiency, the school has been subject to the ever-recurring changes of human affairs and experiences, but at no time within the history of the school has it possessed the elements of interest, efficiency and prosperity in so large measure as at the date of this sketch. With an enrollment of considerably over one hundred scholars, with an efficient and a devoted corps of teachers, a library of between four and five hundred volumes, with an excellent collection of music, class and service books, and having an average attendance of from eighty to ninety scholars, the school is flourishing and has before it a bright and promising future. Mr. C. Van Campen is the present superintendent.

Early in the summer of 1866 the society purchased a beautiful and an eligible site on the northeast corner of Franklin and Zumbro streets upon which to erect a church edifice. Sufficient funds were secured and a neat, substantial building, 24×44 feet, with vestibule in front, was put up and finished the same season, at a cost of about \$2,200. In December the new church was dedicated to the worship of the one ever living and true God, Rev. D. P. Livermore, then of Chicago, preaching the dedicatory sermon.

In the spring of 1868 Mr. Wakefield tendered his resignation as pastor. His resignation was accepted, and he removed to Owatonna, where he organized a society with which he remained a year or two.

Soon after Mr. Wakefield's resignation Rev. H. L. Hayward, of Tecumseh, Michigan, came to Rochester in response to an invitation extended to him, and took pastoral charge of the society. Mr. Hayward remained with the society one year, failing health compelling him to retire, for a time at least, from the active duties of the ministry, and to seek that retirement and rest at his Michigan home so essential to the recovery of his impaired health and exhausted nervous condition. During Mr. Hayward's ministerial year much was accomplished in securing the strength, prosperity and permanency of the society. Besides the increase in numbers and interest of the congregation, a heavy church debt, amounting to

\$1,700, was paid off and some valuable repairs were made on the church edifice.

Near the close of the year in question the subject of church organization was freely discussed, and after mature consideration a church was organized, consisting of thirty-two members. Considerable additions were made to the number soon after. In accordance with the provisions of the constitution of the church, communion service is held on the second sabbaths in January, April, July and October; church meetings to be held on each Saturday next preceding the sabbaths named. The church now numbers between fifty and sixty members.

Mr. Hayward resigned his pastorate in April, 1869, and the society was without regular preaching until June following, when Rev. Eliza Tupper, of Neenah, Wisconsin, came to Rochester and became pastor of the society. Miss Tupper remained with the society until October, when she returned to Neenah, and was soon thereafter united in marriage with Mr. W. A. Wilkes, Esq., of that place.

The same fall the society engaged the services of Rev. J. W. Keyes, as pastor. He remained, however, only about one year, resigning his pastorate and removing from the city in September 1870.

The society was again without a pastor until December following, when Mrs. Wilkes, accompanied by her husband, removed to Rochester, and again became pastor of the society. In April, 1871, Mrs. Wilkes was ordained to the work of the Christian ministry, the ordination sermon being preached by Rev. Dr. Tuttle, of Minneapolis. Mrs. Wilkes was very successful in her ministerial labor while here, and considerable additions were made to the society and church organizations.

In the spring of 1873 Mrs. Wilkes resigned her pastorate, and the society was without stated preaching until the summer of 1874.

Miss Florence E. Kollock, then a student at the Theological School, Canton, New York, came to Rochester early in the summer of 1874, and preached for the society about three months. Miss Kollock has since graduated and is regularly engaged in the work of the Universalist ministry. From the time of Miss Kollock's leaving to January 1, 1875, there was another vacancy in religious services. The pulpit, however, was occasionally occupied by

different ministers from abroad, among whom were Rev. A. Vedder and Rev. J. C. Crawford.

In the meantime negotiations between the trustees and Rev. G. H. Deere, of Danbury, Connecticut, looking to his engagement as pastor of the society, commenced. The correspondence resulted in the calling of Mr. Deere, who came to Rochester and commenced his ministerial labors with the society on the first Sunday in January, 1875. During the first year of his ministry here there was a large accession of members and considerable wealth to the society. Mr. Deere had been with the society about three months when it was decided to build a new and capacious church edifice. Accordingly, the little old church was moved to the rear of the lot, and during the season a basement was excavated and a nice substantial stone wall put in, preparatory to the erection of the structure of brick, the next summer. The new church is about 40×70 feet in size, and was completed, ready for occupancy in December, 1876. Facing the desk and choir, the floor is on an inclined plane. The windows are of stained glass, on each of which there is inscribed a beautiful and appropriate motto. The church is furnished with an elegant pipe-organ. The cost of the church including the organ was fully \$16,000. The church was dedicated to the worship of God in June, 1877, Rev. Dr. Ryder, then of Chicago, preaching the dedicatory sermon.

About the first of October, 1880, Mr. Deere asked and was granted a vacation. He went to Minneapolis, where he supplied for Dr. Tuttle, six months, the latter being absent on a trip to California. In the spring of 1881 Mr. Deere formally tendered his resignation as pastor, which was accepted, and in June following he with Mrs. Deere left for southern California.

The church was closed, excepting for sessions of the Sunday and occasional preaching, until the latter part of the following November, when Rev. J. M. Payson, of Sherman, New York, in response to a call from the trustees, came hither and took pastoral charge of the society. He is the present pastor. Under Mr. Payson's ministerial labors a renewed interest and zeal have been manifest, some new members have been added to the church and society, while the attendance at sabbath-school has nearly doubled, and a new impulse given to its devotion and thoroughness in study and efficiency in work.

*Roman Catholic Church.* — In 1863 Rev. James Morris had



charge of the district. He resided at Rochester and held services at Peter's Hall. He saw that Rochester was the market town of the county and he resolved to make it a central point for the Catholics of the surrounding country.

In 1864 he bought three lots from McCollough opposite the court-house grounds as a site for a church. In 1865 ill health compelled him to remove to another state.

In 1866 Rev. Thos. O'Gorman was appointed to the charge of this district and Peter's Hall still remained the place of worship.

In 1867, as Peter's Hall was found too small, they congregated at Heany's Hall.

In April, 1868, the old court-house hall was engaged for a place of worship. The church was completed, in 1872, at a cost of \$40,000. The edifice is 110×42 in size and is built of limestone.

The Rev. Wm. Riordon took charge of the district July, 1881. The membership is now about six hundred, and the organization is almost free from debt.

The Catholic school is known as the Academy of Lourdes. The building is 58×86 in size, is three stories high and cost (grounds included) \$24,000. The parochial school building is two stories high and 80×36 on the ground. The attendance in both schools aggregates about 170 pupils.

*The German Methodist Church.*—This church was organized in 1856 by Rev. F. Groechtenmeir; Rev. Thalenhorst and Rev. F. Hermismeir preached alternately for a few years. In 1862 the latter-named gentleman moved to Rochester and erected a parsonage.

Rev. H. Boetcher was the next pastor, then came Rev. A. Lamprecht, during whose pastorate a church building was erected in 1867.

The first members were father and mother Young, Lathwesen, Marquardts, Bennecke and Sailers. After the church had been erected Rev. A. Roth was chosen pastor, next came Rev. A. Mueller, who was followed by Rev. W. Buckholtz.

Rev. Hoerger and Rev. H. Schmitger have also acted as pastors.

In the fall of 1882 Rev. H. Roth was again chosen pastor. There are now about 100 members in the circuit. The church building cost \$2,000.

*Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church.*—This church was organized June 14, 1869, Rev. N. E. Jensen being the first pastor. In the beginning 57 members were enrolled, which number has been increased to 150.

The present trustees are O. Oleson, Chris Hansen, J. W. Emmer-son, M. Jerde, P. F. Johnson and C. Oleson; secretary, J. W. Emmer-son; treasurer, O. Oleson.

The congregation purchased the old Baptist church which has recently been fitted up and presents a very neat appearance.

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## CHAPTER XIV.

### SOCIETIES AND INSTITUTIONS.

#### THE SECOND MINNESOTA HOSPITAL FOR INSANE AT ROCHESTER.

THE history of this institution dates back to the year 1872, when the legislature, influenced by the temperance element in the state, who claimed that an asylum for inebriates was urgently needed, and under the plausible plea that the liquor sellers who made the drunkard should be taxed for his support and cure, enacted a law to collect from every liquor dealer an annual tax of \$10 and thereby raise a fund with which to build an asylum, and the same revenue was afterwards to be applied to its support from year to year. In spite of much opposition and litigation of test cases through the courts to sustain the constitutionality of the law, which was claimed to be unjust and discriminating, about \$35,000 was collected. A board of directors was appointed, and in 1876 they purchased one hundred and sixty acres for \$9,000, what is now the hospital farm. They adopted plans and selected the site, and in 1877 they built (C. Bohn being the contractor) and partly completed what now forms the centre building and the first section of the male wing of the hospital. There was so much opposition to this whole scheme of the inebriate asylum, and such urgent need for hospital accommodation for the insane, that the legislature of 1878 transferred the whole property, the farm and the unfinished buildings, which were only inclosed, to the control of the Insane Hospital Board, making at the same time an appropriation of \$15,000 to complete its internal arrangements and prepare it for the accommodation of patients. But as it was necessary to build a laundry and engine house and to put in steam heating apparatus, nearly twice that sum was found necessary. Many changes were needed to adapt the buildings to their new uses,

in which they were but indifferently successful. The board of trustees appointed as superintendent, Dr. J. E. Bowers, and on January 1, 1879, the institution was organized as a Hospital for Insane, eight patients having on the previous day been transferred from Saint Peter, and others rapidly followed and new cases were admitted directly from the counties, so that in a few months the limit of the capacity was reached, and December 1, 1879, there were ninety-four. In 1879 a commodious barn was built at an expense of \$2,500. At the same time an appropriation of \$20,000 was made to put up the first section of the west wing for women, but this was not available till 1880, and the contract was let to C. Bohn, who had just completed this building, when on November 18, 1880, the disastrous fire occurred at St. Peter. But as there were no funds for heating and furnishing the same it was March 15, 1881, before it was ready to receive the first patients from St. Peter. With this addition the capacity of the hospital was about one hundred and seventy-five, but it has been compelled to accommodate two hundred and thirty. In 1881, a new engine house and chimney were added, and a system of water works for domestic use and fire protection. During the summer of 1882 a new laundry was built, and the new east extension was put up at a cost of \$60,000. This is now nearly complete and will accommodate one hundred and seventy-five men, making the east wing complete with room for two hundred and fifty men. The plan contemplates a similar wing on the west side for women. It is hoped that this addition may be made in 1884, and will give the hospital an entire frontage of six hundred and sixty feet, and will furnish accommodation for five hundred patients and the necessary force of employees.

#### BANKS.

*The First National Bank of Rochester* was organized December 1, 1864, with the following board of directors: John R. Cook, president; O. P. Whitcomb, E. S. Olin, S. Geisinger, T. H. Titus, cashier.

In July, 1865, Walter Hurlbut was made assistant cashier.

John R. Cook was president until the time of his death, September 10, 1880. He was succeeded by his wife. His son, J. R. Cook, being made vice-president. Walter Hurlbut succeeded Mr. Titus as cashier May 1, 1874.

The present board of directors are as follows: Francis S. Cook,

president ; John R. Cook, vice-president ; George Healy, R. Cornforth, Walter Hurlbut, cashier.

The capital stock was increased November 10, 1870, to \$100,000.

The institution has paid half yearly dividends without interruption, since its organization and has accumulated a surplus of \$32,000.

*Union National Bank.*—In 1856, J. V. Daniels & Co., opened a brokers and real estate office in a frame building on the east side of Broadway, between Third and College streets. In 1867, Mr. Daniels, in company with F. T. Olds, A. Smith and John B. Clark, opened the "Union Savings Bank," Mr. Daniels being made president, and his son, M. J. Daniels, being secretary and treasurer. In March, 1873, this institution was merged in the Union National Bank, with the following named officers: J. V. Daniels, president ; F. T. Olds, vice-president ; M. J. Daniels, cashier, and J. W. Booth, assistant cashier.

The directors were, J. V. Daniels, D. S. Hebbard, A. M. Ozmun, F. T. Olds, Huber Bastian, John M. Cole, J. D. Blake, Thos. Brooks and T. S. Slingland. On September 24, 1881, J. V. Daniels died, and was succeeded by his son in January, 1882. Mr. T. H. Titus being made cashier.

The present directors are, M. J. Daniels, F. T. Olds, J. D. Blake, John M. Cole, T. L. Fishback, Thomas Brooks and W. L. Brackenridge. The institution was organized with a cash capital of \$50,000, which sum has been increased to nearly \$100,000. It has also accumulated a surplus of \$35,000.

*Rochester National Bank.*—Charles H. Chadbourn emigrated to Minnesota in the fall of 1860, establishing a private bank in December of that year, under the name of the "Rochester Bank." In November, 1862, he formed a co-partnership with Rodney Whitney, of Geneseo, New York, under the firm name of Chadbourn & Whitney, continuing until the death of Mr. Whitney in 1868. In the year 1863 they built what is known as "Bank Block" on the east side of Broadway, and moved their office from Third street to the corner room, now occupied by the Rochester National Bank. Upon the death of Mr. Whitney Mr. Chadbourn formed a co-partnership with R. W. Chadbourn, a large capitalist of Columbus, Wisconsin, under the firm name of Chadbourn Bros., with a cash capital of \$100,000. The firm of Chadbourn Bros. continued until the organization of the Rochester National Bank in January,



1876. During which time James A. Austin was their efficient cashier. Upon the removal of Mr. Austin to Chattanooga, Tennessee, in 1875, Mr. C. H. Bliss who had for several years served as teller and bookkeeper was elected cashier, and upon the organization of the national bank accepted the same position in the new institution merging the former business of Chadbourn Bros. in the Rochester National Bank with a cash capital and surplus of \$75,000. Mr. Chadbourn accepted the presidency of the institution, and since that time has devoted his energies to building up one of the strongest banks in southern Minnesota.

#### MASONIC.

At the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the establishment of Rochester Lodge, No. 21, the rooms were crowded by masons and their wives, and a fine lunch was served. Secretary Hannon read the following history of the lodge :

Worshipful Master : Your committee appointed to prepare a historical sketch of this lodge, submit the following :

Twenty-five years ago this morning the first record of this lodge was made and still stands on our book in these words :

LESUER HALL, Rochester, Minn., August 24, 1857.

Assembled at 9 o'clock A.M. this day at Lesuer's Hall, for the purpose of organizing a lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. Volney W. Bailey, E. A. McMahon, J. N. McLane, P. Roberts, C. D. Houghton, Peter Cassidy, Wm. D. Lowery, Thomas Harrington, Stephen Bredin, J. M. Williams and Stiles P. Jones. Bro. Bailey presented a dispensation from the G. M. of the G. L. of Minnesota, appointing Volney W. Bailey, W. M.; Charles C. Jones, S. W.; and Cornelius S. Younglove, J. W., of Rochester lodge.

A lodge of Master Masons was then opened in due and ancient form. There were present Bros. A. S. Ferris, as W. M.; Volney W. Bailey, as S. W.; Stephen Bredin, as J. W.; E. A. McMahon, as T.; Stiles P. Jones, as S.; J. N. McLane, as S. D.; C. D. Houghton, as J. D.; P. Roberts, as Tyler.

At this communication L. S. Howe, Charles Willis, Charles H. Morton, D. Heaney, C. H. Lindsly and C. C. Cole were proposed, and elected to receive the degrees, and Messrs. Howe, Morton, and Heaney were initiated as entered apprentices. The fees and dues were also established as follows : E. A. degree, \$10 ; F. C. degree, \$5 ; M. M. degree, \$10. Dues ten cents per week.

The lodge met at the same hour (nine o'clock A.M.), on August 25 and 26, 1857, and from the records, it appears the communica-

tions must have continued all day and well into the night on each occasion.

The first visit to the lodge by the M. W. G. M., was on September 30, 1857, at which time Grand Master Pierson was present and presided as W. M.

The first election of officers of the lodge was held December 30, 1857, at which time the following were elected: Bro. L. H. Kelley, W. M.; C. C. Jones, S. W.; J. M. Williams, J. W.; D. Lesuer, S.; A. Ozmun, T.; E. C. Dorr, S. D.; C. D. Houghton, J. D.; Peter Cassidy, Tyler.

At the ensuing session of the grand lodge a charter was granted dated January 8, A.D. 1858, A.L. 5858. It is still in our possession, and bears the signatures of A. T. C. Pierson, G.M.; Wm. H. Mower, D.G.M.; E. A. Hodson, G.S.W.; Wm. Lee, G.J.W.; and Geo. W. Prescott, G.S.; in and by which the lodge is named Rochester Lodge, No. 21. The lodge was duly consecrated by that name and the officers installed February 27, 1858, by V. W. Bailey, D.G.M.

The first by-laws of the lodge were adopted March 1, 1858, and consisted only of three sections. Sec. 1 fixed a fee of \$1 to be paid by a master mason on joining this lodge.

Sec. 2 provided for applications for the degrees.

Sec. 3 provided for fees for the degrees, in the amounts as hereinbefore stated.

This was the origin of our lodge. As a matter of course any detailed history of the communications of this lodge for the last twenty-five years would be too voluminous to be embodied in this report, and would be beyond the duty enjoined upon us. We therefore place on this record only a few prominent facts.

Lesuer Hall, where the lodge first met, was the second story of a wooden store building, belonging to our worthy brother David Lesuer, standing on the west side of Broadway, near the center of block 10.

The communications of the lodge were subsequently held in the second story of the wooden building now standing on block 23, and formerly used by Mr. Beardsley as a harness shop.

In the winter of 1864-5 the hall where we are now assembled was so far completed as to be used for the communications of the lodge. A large indebtedness having been incurred in erection of the hall, it remained in a very meager state as to furniture, and entirely

without carpets until the year 1866, when the seats and carpets in use until today were procured, and have been in constant use ever since. A striking evidence of the devotion of the members of this lodge to the order is recorded in the minutes of December 24, 1866, at which communication the brethren paid into the treasury the sum of \$2,519.25, to liquidate the debt growing out of the erection of this hall.

The beautiful temple in which we are met, now refurnished throughout, is owned by the lodge free of debt, and of itself evidences the financial prosperity of our order in this city.

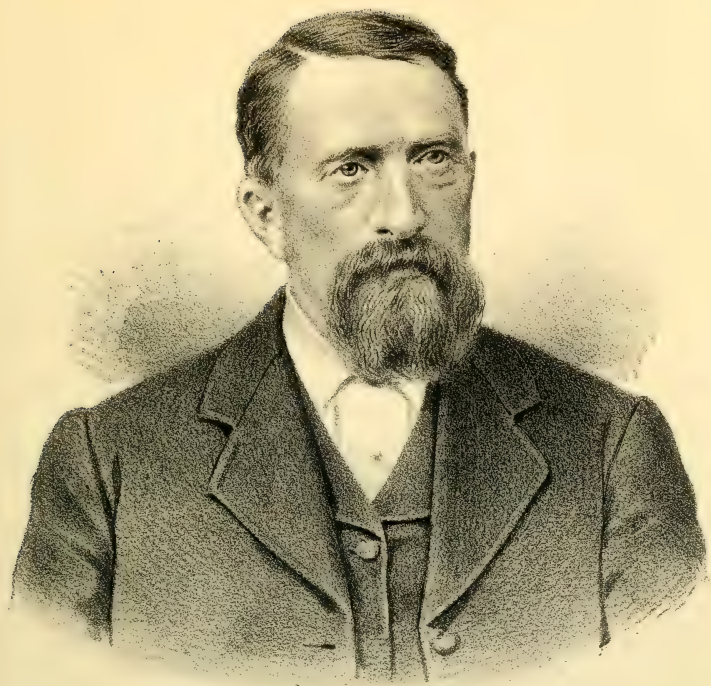
Your committee have found it impossible to state with exactness the actual sum of money expended in the erection and furnishing of these rooms. We have now occupied them for masonic purposes over seventeen years and during that time large sums and small sums have been expended in repairs and furniture. The original bills and reports of committees from which the information could be alone derived have been in some instances lost or mislaid, and the records do not disclose (in many instances) the facts from which an accurate statement can be compiled. From the best information obtainable, your committee believe that the cost of the building, furniture, fixtures and repairs during the time stated, has exceeded the sum of \$15,000.

The repairs and furnishing now just made as you behold them, have been completed at an expense of over \$1,200.

The lodge adopted articles of incorporation on June 21, 1875, and became a corporate body under the laws of the state on that day.

The real work of the order, however, may be found in the records of the lodge. During the twenty-five years past we have made two hundred and twenty-one Masons in this lodge, and three hundred and thirty-two have been members of it; and we still have upon our rolls one hundred and forty-eight members in good standing.

Of our members twenty-four have died, namely, Rev. S. N. Forest, N. B. Robbins, Jr., R. H. Supinger, Stiles P. Jones, Geo. W. Patterson, L. H. Kelly, T. E. D. Horton, J. M. Clayson, John R. Cook, Moses W. Fay, John Westerman, M. W. Leland, J. K. Randall, Manly C. Fuller, Geo. Tillbury, E. A. McMahon, S. B. Bliss, J. S. Allen, Volney W. Baily, W. D. Woodward, D. C. Rowell, L. W. Killbourn, A. V. Daniels, John H. Whitney. Many others have moved to other places, and have dimitted, and one has been expelled, and forty-one have been suspended or stricken from the roll.



J. T. PRICE.





Since Brother L. H. Kelly (now deceased), first presided over this lodge as W.M. in 1858, the gavel has been in the hands of his successors as follows : C. C. Jones, C. H. Lindsley, E. C. Cross, O. A. Hadley, R. A. Jones, R. H. Gove, Wm. Brown, W. G. Bartley, Benjamin Ayshford and R. L. Van Dusen.

#### INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD-FELLOWS.

*Rochester Lodge, No. 13.*—The Odd-Fellows residing in the city of Rochester in 1861 held a meeting in Lesuer's Hall in July of that year and decided to organize a lodge of that order in Rochester. An application for a charter was made to the M.W.G.M., which was granted, and the lodge duly organized July 31, 1861, under the name of Rochester Lodge, No. 13. The charter members were J. D. Ameigh, C. H. Blakely, D. Bell, J. W. Everstine and D. Lesuer. At this meeting John Clark, M. Markham and A. Hartsell were admitted as members and assisted in the organization of the lodge. The following is a list of the first officers elected : C. H. Blakely, N.G.; D. Bell, V.G.; J. D. Ameigh, Sec.; D. Lesuer, Treas.

All of the above-named members are still living except J. D. Ameigh, and four of them, J. W. Everstine, D. Lesuer, M. Markham and John Clark are still active members of this lodge.

The lodge held its meetings for some time after its organization in what was then known as Lesuer's Hall, near head of Broadway, then in the old "Free Press" office, near corner of Broadway and Fourth streets, and after the completion of the present Masonic hall its meetings were held there for a number of years, when the lodge removed to Heaney's block. In 1875 this lodge commenced the erection of a two-story brick building on the corner of Zumbro and Main streets, which was completed in 1876, the lodge holding its first meeting in their new hall in July of that year. The total cost of the building, together with the hall and postoffice fixtures, was upward of \$19,000. The postoffice is located in this building. The new Odd-Fellows' hall is also occupied by the Knights of Honor, Ancient Order of United Workmen, and Steuben Lodge, I.O.O.F. (German).

Rochester lodge now has a membership of one hundred and twenty-five, and the number is rapidly increasing. Thousands of dollars have been paid out by the lodge since its organization for the benefit of sick and destitute members. The angel of death has

seldom visited this lodge, and not often have they been called upon to drop the evergreen into the grave of a departed brother.

The present officers of the lodge are as follows: W. S. Parker, N.G.; H. M. Richardson, V.G.; G. P. Jones, Sec.; H. McLeod, Permanent Sec.; N. B. Wilkins, Treas.

*Steuben Lodge, No. 27.*—On July 13, 1870, the following charter members, all of which being granted cards from their mother lodge, Rochester, No. 13, duly organized Steuben Lodge, No. 27, working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, and in the German language, to wit: Bros. J. G. Zimmerman, J. Koonsmiller, Fred Pamperin, B. Schwartz, Julius Moll, Henry Weber, Henry Schuster, L. Harris, Geo. Baihly, and J. F. Ruber, Officers were elected and installed by Bro. H. C. Fuhrman, deputy grand master of Humboldt Lodge, No. 24, of Winona, assisted by other members of the latter lodge. During the first term of six months twenty-one more members were admitted by card and initiation. Since the organization the lodge has gradually grown in membership. It has in all received a membership of one hundred and two, of which four have died, twenty-five were suspended from membership for various causes, eighteen have withdrawn, three were expelled and two were reinstated, leaving, on July 1, last, a membership, in good standing, of fifty-two.

The total receipts from all sources were \$5,966.24.

The expenditures were, for relief of brothers, \$904; burying the dead, \$135; lodge expenses, \$2,474.48; other expenses, including charity, \$984.64. At the end of the last term the total balance in the treasury of the lodge amounted to \$1,454.68.

Besides this there is a widows and orphans' fund of \$696.98; the annual dues charged by this lodge are \$6; initiation fee, \$10 to \$15; degree fee, \$5; weekly benefits granted, \$2 and \$4; funeral benefits, \$15 and \$30.

The following are the past grands of the lodge: G. Hargesheimer, F. Pamperin, B. Schwartz, H. Kalb, R. Schmidt, H. Schister, C. Neusuess, J. Posz, C. Palm, Ph. Voltz, J. Miller, Geo. Haber, J. G. Zimmerman, H. Ungemach.

Officers for the present term are: C. Palm, N.G.; C. Hagedorn, V.G.; F. Pamperin, R. and P. S.; C. Schwab, Treas.

The lodge meets weekly on Friday evenings at Odd-Fellows' hall.

## ANCIENT ORDER OF UNITED WORKMEN.

This society was organized August 25, 1877, with forty charter members, and the following named officers elected : G. W. Nichols, M.W.; Wm. Elliott, P.M.W.; S. A. Hickcox, G.F.; L. W. Newberry, O.; J. Elfrod, G.; G. P. Johnston, Recorder; W. J. Tolan, Financier; R. Dyson, Receiver; R. L. Emerick, I.W.; O. S. Thompson, O.W.

The present officers are as follows : Isaac Robertson, M.W.; C. A. Merrill, P.M.W.; J. H. Wright, G.F.; R. Dyson, O.; S. A. Hickcox, G.; W. W. Reed, Recorder; W. W. Reed, Financier; C. H. Roberts, R.; H. C. Bongers, I.W.; O. Baker, O.W.

The lodge is now in a prosperous condition and numbers about one hundred members.

## THE CITY LIBRARY.

In 1866 a movement was inaugurated by the citizens of Rochester for the purpose of establishing a library and reading room. On the evening of January 8 of that year a meeting was held and the following-named officers elected : J. D. Blake, Prest.; W. R. Stephens, Vice-Prest.; O. P. Whitcomb, Treas.; L. Walker, Secretary and Librarian; W. W. Mayo, Rodney Whitney and W. D. Hurlbut, Executive Committee. Among the liberal contributors to this commendable institution we find the names of J. D. Blake, W. D. Hurlbut, W. W. Mayo, O. P. Whitcomb, Chadbourne & Whitney, Leonard & Booth, J. B. Clark, John R. Cook, H. T. Horton, O. P. Stearns, Benj. B. Herbert and Rev. Anslie. With the funds contributed by these and other gentlemen one thousand volumes were purchased, which number has since been increased to two thousand three hundred and sixteen. For six years the library has been in charge of the W.C.T.U. of the city, and Mrs. Stansbury is the present librarian. This society was organized in 1875, and numbered at that time one hundred members. The present officers are as follows : Mrs. Garret, Prest.; Mrs. O. O. Baldwin, Vice-Prest.; Mrs. Moe, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Durkee, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Sanford Niles, Treasurer. The society have added books to the library to the amount of two hundred and fifty dollars.

## GERMAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

The German Library Association was organized by a consolidation of members of the Rochester Union and Rochester Social Turnvereins on the 29th of December, 1872. The society then occupied



two small rooms over Vedder's agricultural warehouse on Broadway and Fifth streets. The following were the officers elected at this meeting : William Oker, Prest. ; B. Schwartz, Vice-Prest. ; L. Harris, Treas. ; H. Kalb, Librarian ; J. G. Karlen, Sec. ; H. Schuster, Ed. Neumann, Trustees. In November, 1878, the society removed to the more capacious building of Mr. H. Schuster until November 16, 1879, when it went into the fine building now occupied by them known as Library Hall. The library consists of over one thousand volumes, all bound, and the society has a cash capital of nearly \$200, besides furniture estimated at \$1,500.

## CHAPTER XV.

### MARION, HAVERHILL AND ROCK DELL TOWNSHIPS.

#### MARION.

THIS township is bounded on the west by Rochester, by Pleasant Grove on the south, on the east by Eyota, and on the north by Havhill. The township was first settled in 1854. The Kinney, Phelps and Mills families were the first to locate within its boundaries. Messrs. Lull, McCaleb, Fulkerson, were also among the early settlers. The first religious service was held in 1854. The little assembly was addressed by Rev. Predmore, who then resided in Iowa.

The first merchant to embark in business in the village of Marion was Mr. A. C. Rodgers, agent for a Mr. Clark, of Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. Shortly after James Degraff brought a stock of goods from Freeport, Illinois. Messrs. Curtis & Dudley also brought in a stock from Wisconsin. Leonard Chase was the first blacksmith, John Strangeway the first wagon-maker, and Dr. J. C. Cole the first druggist and physician.

In 1856 this village was a formidable rival of Rochester, and was a contestant for the county seat. After that important honor was conferred upon the latter, however, Marion's prosperity began to wane, and now she is a mere shadow of her former self. Her citizens, no doubt, often repeat the verse,

"Of all sad words of tongue or pen,  
The saddest are these, *It might have been.*"

The Methodist Episcopal church at Marion was organized in 1855 by Rev. Benjamin Criss, who at that time had charge of a circuit extending from Brownsville to the northern part of Olmsted county. He traveled over his circuit on foot, crossing fields and forests and wading streams. The names of the members at the time of organization are as follows: N. S. Phelps, L. M. Phelps, Phoebe Phelps, E. C. Phelps, Electa Phelps, Charles Strother, Alfred Kinney and wife, R. S. Phelps and wife, Jaures Rutan and wife, and Margaret Phelps. They erected a church building in 1859, which was afterward burned. It was rebuilt the same summer, however, at a cost of thirty-five hundred dollars. The present pastor is Rev. Josef Hall. The membership at present is about sixty.

The Church of Christ was organized at the schoolhouse at Marion in 1866 by Rev. Levan, who acted as pastor for a number of years. The present pastor is the Rev. A. W. Deane, of Pleasant Grove. The present officers are as follows: Elders, H. McCaleb and Reuben Jones; deacons, Benjamin Emmerson and George Campbell. The present membership is about seventy; the average attendance at Sunday school is about fifty. The Presbyterian church at Chester was organized in 1869 by Rev. George Anslie, who has acted as pastor since that time. They have never erected a place of worship, but use their schoolhouse. The membership is forty-six.

The township was organized in 1858, John Case being the first chairman of supervisors, and E. F. Fry the first town clerk. The first postoffice was established in 1856, L. G. Dudley officiating as postmaster.

The first wedding in the township occurred in 1856, the contracting parties being Jacob Bonham, now a prominent merchant at Rochester, and Miss Letitia Phelps. In the winter of 1856-7 a young girl was frozen to death a short distance from Marion. Her body was not found for many days after. In 1857 a stranger was accidentally shot, and his funeral was the first to occur in the township.

The soil of Marion is mostly sandy loam, and is very rich and productive. A strip of sandy soil extends across the township nearly a mile in width. The timber supply is mostly in Pleasant Grove township, Root river affording an abundance.

#### HAVERHILL.

There has been considerable difficulty experienced in selecting a name for this town. It was first named Zumbro, after the river of that name, but as the adjoining county of Wabasha had a town of

that name, Zumbro was changed for a short time to Grant, and in April, 1865, to Sherman, and in April, 1867, to its present name of Haverhill.

It is situated in the center tier of townships, its west line forming the east boundary of the city of Rochester. On account of the proximity of this city (Rochester) Haverhill has neither church, store or postoffice. It had for a few years a postoffice, Robert Latte being the first postmaster, holding that position about one year, 1857 and part of 1858, when G. Van Horton was appointed. He kept the office till 1860; Charley Parker was then appointed, but in one year he turned it over to S. B. Willard, who in one year left it for H. K. Bletham to keep. Mr. Bletham turned it over to the Rochester post-office about 1864 or 1865, since which time there has been no post-office in the town, all mail being received at Rochester, where also all farm and household supplies are purchased and all farm products sold.

The first settlers in Haverhill came in 1855. G. Van Hautan, from Indiana, in the spring of 1855 settled on section 15. Edward Cox took a claim in section 10 the same year; he came from Wisconsin. Zedekiah Tumbleson, from Indiana, settled on section 1. Cyrus Night settled on section 5. C. B. Dodge settled on section 17. J. W. Livingston settled on section 35. Gideon Fitch settled on section 4. James G. Whipple settled on section 17. All the above-named settlers came in the year 1855, and many of them made their homes in their wagon or on the ground in tents made of horse-blankets, old quilts and, where they had them, wagon-covers. Gideon Fitch built the first log house of burr-oak in 1855; the first birth, death and marriage occurred in this (Fitch) family. The first school teacher was Mrs. Jane Andrews, from Rhode Island, who taught school in her own house in section 8 in the year 1857.

Haverhill was organized as a town in 1859, under the name of Zumbro, as before stated. The following officers were then elected at a general town election: O. A. Hadley, chairman of the board of supervisors; C. H. Crane and Samuel R. Woodbury, associate supervisors; Charles Parker, town clerk; R. H. Talbot, assessor; Baldwin Martin, collector; Francis Dresser and R. W. Palmer, justices of the peace; Baldwin Martin and John P. Simmonds, constables; Gideon Fitch, overseer of the poor, and Garrett Van Houton, poundmaster. The present (1883) incumbents are: B. F. Bulin, chairman of board of supervisors; J. J. Lawder and S. S. Faner,

associate supervisors ; John Barrett, clerk. During the rebellion of 1861-5 the following men were accredited to Haverhill as soldiers to fill her quota : A. I. Mason, W. Wood, died in prison ; O. Whipple died in prison ; E. Dodge, George Sawelle, John Fitch, G. Dewitt, J. Dexter, V. Mante, J. P. Simmonds, Ira Marlett, James Marlett, Sam Horton, P. Irish, P. Van Hally, died in hospital ; O. Bulen, B. F. Bulen, Morgan Bulen, M. Peckham, George Woodruff, Thomas Horton, died in hospital ; Herbert Ingals, W. Delaney, G. F. Brockett, Patrick Murphy, Pat Iago and Steve Johnson. About one half of this town is prairie, but along the streams it is very bluff and heavily timbered ; there are several small marshes. The present inhabitants are principally Irish, with a few Americans and Germans. Much of the land is owned by non-residents, who rent it to tenants. C. Wilson has large farms in sections 21, 20, 29 and 32. In 1877 he had 800 acres in wheat, which gave him a net profit of \$8,000. The eastern branches of the Zumbro drain almost every section in the town.

#### ROCK DELL.

This town is situated in the southwest corner of Olmsted county, having Dodge county on the west, Salem on the north, High Forrest on the east, and what is known as the Panhandle on the south. This Panhandle consists of twelve extra sections belonging to High Forrest, they form a line along the south of both High Forrest and Rock Dell, and on the plat of High Forrest look somewhat like a handle to a square pan, hence the name of Panhandle. Rock Dell takes its name from the beautiful dells in section 9 and 16. These dells surround beautiful little valleys, through which meanders Rock Dell creek. To one side of one of these valleys is a beautiful, clear, live spring of water, which gushes from the rock with considerable force and forms the headwaters of Rock Dell creek. This place is a great resort during the summer months for picnic parties from High Forrest and Rochester.

At an election held at the house of Mr. Russell, May 11, 1858, pursuant to notice, John S. Pierson was elected moderator and James S. Cornish, clerk. The electors organized the town of Rock Dell by electing the following officers : J. P. Powers, chairman of the board of supervisors ; H. A. Fox and N. Nelson, associate supervisors ; J. S. Cornish, town clerk ; R. S. Larson, assessor ; Hill Gillett, overseer of the poor ; John L. Pierson and J. W. Ad-



kinson, justices of the peace ; W. Croghan and Z. Shipper, constables ; W. Crogan, collector.

The year 1854 was that in which the first settlements were made. Nels Nelson, Tollef Oleson, Ole Oleson, Ole Amanson, Guta Molson, I. Golberg, Ole Tollefson and Ole Christ, all settled here this year. They came mostly from the Norwegian settlements in Dane county, Wisconsin. Rock Dell is almost wholly settled by Scandinavians. There are in the southwest corner of the town a few Irish and in the center two American families. The first birth in this town was that of Ole T. Oleson, son of T. Oleson, born on the 9th of September, 1854. The first death was Guta Molson. There was but little timber here when the first settlements were made, but now every farmer has an acre or more of timber, oak, poplar or cottonwood, which he has cultivated for his own use. In the northwest corner of the town there is a marsh of fully 300 acres, and in the southern part there are a few small ones.

There is one store of general merchandise in the town, owned by Nels Magneson, who is also postmaster for the Rock Dell post-office. This store was first opened by Antonie Johnson in 1876, it stands on section 8.

The Lutheran church is a well built, handsome stone structure seventy-six feet long and forty-four feet wide, exclusive of the steeple, which is 16×16 feet, and the vestry at the back, which is 16×18 feet. There is room to seat one thousand persons. The Lutheran congregation was first organized by C. L. Clausen in 1855, and L. Steen took charge in 1861, and in 1867 commenced building the church, which was not finished till 1875. On the 13th of November of that year the Rev. B. J. Muws, assisted by several other prominent Lutheran ministers, consecrated the church. The present minister, the Rev. J. A. Thorsen, has occupied the pulpit since 1869. This church is situated on section 4, close to the south line of the town of Salem, which makes it very convenient for the members living in that town, and there are quite a number of them.

## CHAPTER XVI.

### KALMAR TOWNSHIP.

THIS is one of the best and earliest settled towns in Olmsted county. The south fork of the middle Zumbro river winds across in many a graceful curve, entering about the middle of the western side and leaving as it passes into New Haven, at the village of Genoa, across the center of the northern boundary. Its banks are handsomely wooded, the northern one being often very abrupt and the southern skirted by beautiful vistas now made fruitful by the hand of the husbandman.

About one-third of the area is thus occupied by excellent timber, and the remainder is gently rolling prairie. The village of Byron, near the southwest corner of the township, occupies a high and handsome site, being 260 feet above the level of Rochester. Early residents relate that its site was bare of bush or shrub in 1855, but now its fair face is almost hidden by groves that have been planted; and but for its church spires and elevator, which loom above the trees, the traveler would never suspect its existence when a mile away.

The Zumbro river furnished power for several sawmills which dotted its banks in the early years, and they found ample employment in furnishing materials for the cabins of early settlers. But the railroad has brought lumber from the pine forests of northern Wisconsin, and the mission of the local sawmills has ended. During the summer of 1855 I. S. Whitcomb, James A. Blair and Michael H. Staats built a sawmill on section 8, and two years later converted it into a gristmill; this was swept away by the spring freshet of 1866, and never rebuilt. The first death in this vicinity was that of a young man named Lockwood, who took cold while digging for the foundations of the mill, and died in August at the house of a friend named Richardson, across the line in Dodge county. The only manufacture now carried on in the township is that of flour, at what is known as Middleton's mill, on section 17.

The first marriage and death within the limits of Kalmar occurred in the family of James Canfield. On August 4, 1855, his infant

son, James G., died ; and the mother, Margaret, expired on the 7th. On the following Christmas, Mr. Canfield was married to Mariva Bonner. James Bucklen, Esq., of Rochester, had been engaged to perform the ceremony, and got lost in crossing the prairie, which was not then, as now, dotted with groves, etc., to serve as landmarks. Becoming impatient at the delay caused by his non-appearance, the groom sent for Rev. D. L. King, who lived within two or three miles ; but before Mr. King could get ready and reach the scene of action, Mr. Bucklen had found his way and tied the knot. The former, however, came in for a share of the wedding supper. Canfield was shot while in the United States service during the war of the rebellion, and none of his family are left in the town, his widow having removed to Dakota.

The first birth of a Caucasian child occurred July 24, 1855, being a daughter of D. L. King, who was christened Ruth Ellen. She married A. C. Waldron, and now resides at Spencer, Iowa. Charles D., eldest son of F. C. Whitcomb, was born on December 11 of this year.

This town is described in the United States survey as T. 107, R. 15. It is bounded on the north by New Haven, a heavily wooded township elsewhere described in this work ; Cascade, a prairie region, lies east of it ; on the south is Salem, a wealthy farming region ; and west is Mantorville, in Dodge county. The soil of Kalmar is a rich prairie loam, underlaid by a clay subsoil, and is as near everlasting as any soil ever made. It shares somewhat in the general failure of wheat which has characterized southern Minnesota during the last four seasons. The shortage has not been as great here as in some other townships, however. A good deal of attention has been given to stock-raising and dairying of late, and most farmers are independent of grain-raising. A cheese factory at Byron, and another at Olmsted on the line between Kalmar and Cascade, are doing a flourishing business, and furnish an excellent market for the milk of farmers. Some attention is being given to the improvement in breeds of horses and all sorts of stock, and many are almost exclusively engaged in raising the various kinds of domestic animals.

This township was settled largely by New York and New England people, and contains at this time probably a greater proportion of the pioneer residents than any other town in the county. Many of the early settlers had previously dwelt in Illinois and Wisconsin.

In October, 1854, D. L. King, F. C. Whitcomb, and Marinus King visited this town and took up claims, the former on section 17, and the others on section 29. Messrs. King and Whitcomb still reside on their original claims. They returned in 1854 to their Illinois homes, and came here with their families in the spring of 1855. During the same year claims were taken by Almeron Randall, Israel Devine, John Colwell, Alpheus Merritt, George W. and Ensign Chillson, Obediah Gilbert, Norman Haight, Judge Olds, Gaylord Harlbut, Benjamin McDowell, and others. In 1855 came Ira S. Whitcomb, Samuel McDowell, Nathan Bowman, Isaac Dodd, James, John and Darius Ellison, Richard Middleton, Jerome Harrington, Joseph Edmunson, George and Dudley Sinclair.

During the summer of 1855 a school was maintained in a claim shanty on section 12: Miss Ann Losinger was the teacher. This building was shortly moved to section 36, New Haven, and school was kept in it there. Thus arises the claim that Miss Losinger taught the first school in both townships.

#### SOCIETIES.

*Methodist church.*—Rev. D. L. King, the pioneer of the township, was a Methodist deacon ordained in Illinois, and he early set about the organization of a class here. This was effected in the fall of 1855, at the house of Judge Olds. Mr. King was made class-leader. The other members were his wife, Lorenzo Gilbert and wife, Obediah Gilbert and his daughter, Alvira. During this year Mr. King preached at Mantorville, Rochester, and at various houses in this town. In 1858 a class was organized at a meeting held in Ensign Chillson's barn, and this was the nucleus of a society which now holds meetings and Sabbath school in the town hall.

The first sermon at Kalmar, as the location of the sawmill on section 8 was called, was delivered by Rev. Nelson Moon, of Oronoco, on the occasion of the funeral of Mrs. F. C. Whitcomb.

In the fall of 1867 a class was organized at Byron by Rev. Chambers, and a strong society has been ever since maintained there. In 1873 a handsome frame church was built, at a cost of \$3,000. The structure is fifty feet long by thirty-two in width, surmounted by a proportionate spire. Its audience-room is eighteen feet high and will comfortably accommodate 250 persons. The society also possesses a pleasant parsonage, built at a cost of \$1,000. The last of its debt, \$300, was cleared off in the summer of 1883. The society



now includes a membership of sixty persons. Many losses in numbers have occurred through the restless inclination of people to emigrate toward the setting sun. Its Sunday school numbers nearly seventy-five pupils, and is prosperous. This charge also includes Douglass station, and embraces 100 members. The people are large-hearted, and do their share in caring for the poor and unfortunate, and in contributing to home and foreign missions. The following are the names of the pastors who have officiated here, with the years of their service : B. Y. Coffin, 2. R. Forbes, 3 ; J. N. Liscomb, 3 ; A. C. Reynolds, 2 ; Milton Akers, 3 ; B. F. Capehart, 1 ; G. W. Barnett, appointed last conference.

#### BAPTIST CHURCH.

The religious tendencies of Kalmar people were early cultivated, and are in a thrifty condition now. As early as June, 1857, Richard Middleton organized a Sunday school, which he conducted for two successive summers, in the loft above his store on section 17. On his removal to Rochester, two years later, he resigned his superintendency, but the school was maintained. It was non-sectarian, although Mr. Middleton was an earnest adherent of the Baptist church. During the second summer the school was held in his house.

The first meeting for the organization of the Baptist society was held August 21, 1857, in a grove near Mr. Middleton's house, and eight persons were associated together as the Big Grove Baptist church. Their names were recorded as follows : Richard Middleton, Lucinda C. Middleton, Darius Ellison, Rachael Fisher, John Ellison, Prudence Hamilton, W. R. Woodward and wife. At a meeting on the 7th of November following, W. R. Woodward was elected clerk of the society, and it was decided to invite Elder Shepard of Wasioji, to preach to them. January 9 following, Woodward was also made deacon. In August, 1858, Rev. Erastus Westcott began to preach to this congregation. During the year following he delivered a sermon once in two weeks, and received for his services less than fifty dollars. This was the period of depression following the financial crash of 1857. One member of the flock lost over \$1,500 in mercantile operations at this time. Mr. Westcott had a farm near Rochester which afforded him sustenance, and he ministered to the spiritual wants of his flock without hope of earthly reward.

The first formal organization occurred May 12, 1860, at which time Richard Middleton and W. R. Woodward were made deacons,

and the latter continued as clerk. During the existence of the society there have been about 225 baptisms, and 250 persons have been received as members. It now includes over 100 persons, and is in a prosperous condition, never having received a cent of aid from outside its own constituency.

The name was changed to Byron church after the organization of the village of that name. It had been previously called Kalmar church for some years. In 1871 the present handsome church edifice was built. It stands near the railroad track on the south side. It was built of the best quality of lumber, purchased expressly for that purpose in Minneapolis by Mr. Middleton, president of the building committee. William Waite, Joseph Dearborn, Hiram Fairbanks and Thomas Kesson were also members of the building committee. The structure is 55 × 33 feet in area, framed, and its auditorium is 18 feet in height. 275 persons can be comfortably seated in it. The Sunday school connected with this society is large and prosperous.

At the annual meeting, November 16, 1882, the following officers were elected: deacons, R. Middleton, L. W. Allard; clerk, W. H. Middleton; treasurer, H. G. Hurd; organist, Mrs. S. A. Middleton; Sunday school superintendent, Silas A. Middleton; assistant superintendent, H. Sparow; secretary, Francis Sinclair; librarian, Alma Roof.

#### SECOND ADVENT CHURCH.

This society was organized May 3, 1882, with nine members. Jacob Jacobson was local elder and H. P. Anderson clerk and treasurer. Besides the wives of these gentlemen, the society included George Peterson and wife, Henry Friis and his daughter Christina, and R. P. Barmstrup. Rev. Louis Johnson, of Sleepy Eye, officiated at the organization. Most of the preaching is done by the local elder. During the summer of 1882 the society fitted up a building—which had formerly been used as a dwelling,—donated for this purpose by a member, and has since held its meetings there. The membership now numbers twenty-two, and there is a sabbath school of thirty-five pupils, superintended by George Peterson.

#### I. O. G. T.

From the time of the advent of the railroad at Byron till the spring of 1872, liquor was freely dispensed there. During the year ending May 1, 1877, a saloon was maintained. In order to combat

this evil a lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was instituted in 1868, under the name of Byron Lodge. At one time the society included over seventy-five members. In 1870 it was discontinued, and again organized in 1875, continuing to 1878. None of its records can now be found. As liquor and drunkenness are now unknown here, its mission appears to have been filled.

#### POLITICAL.

The organization of this town was effected at the same time as that of all others in this vicinity, May 11, 1858. It took place at Kalmar, most of the citizens of the town being present. D. L. King was made chairman of the meeting, and James Ford moderator. John C. Simonton was chosen clerk, and Hiram Fairbanks as his assistant. The location of the next annual meeting was fixed by vote at the village of Middleton, and \$100 was voted for contingent expenses of the current year. At this meeting, the following officers were elected: Supervisors, D. L. King, chairman, H. C. Sheldon, Moses Herrick; clerk, Samuel McDowell; assessor, Benjamin McDowell; collector, James Ellison; overseer of poor, R. Middleton; overseer of roads, John Kinsey; justices of the peace, J. H. Harding and Norman Haight; constables, James Ellison and Robert Canfield.

At the second election, the fund for contingent expenses was increased to \$105, and \$50 was voted for planks to be used in making roads.

Following is the list of supervisors and town clerks since elected: 1859—D. L. King, I. S. Whitcomb, James Phelan, S. J. McDowell. 1860—H. C. Sheldon, I. S. Whitcomb, Jonathan Gordon, William W. Doty. 1861—Nelson Payne, J. Gordon, S. G. Cummings, S. J. McDowell. 1862—Dudley Sinclair, M. H. Staats, H. C. Sheldon, S. J. McDowell. 1863—D. L. King, W. R. Woodard, D. D. Gove, S. J. McDowell. 1864—D. L. King, H. C. Sheldon, Thomas Kesson, S. J. McDowell. 1865—B. F. Perry, J. C. Simonton, Gaylord Hurlbut, R. J. Perry. 1866—B. F. Perry, George Sinclair, Isaac Dodd, R. J. Perry. 1867—G. Sinclair, I. Dodd, Daniel D. Tompkins, R. J. Perry. 1868—I. Dodd, G. Holmes, D. D. Tompkins, R. J. Perry. 1869—David Maxfield, I. Dodd, I. S. Whitcomb, R. J. Perry. 1870—D. Maxfield, I. Dodd, D. D. Gove, J. B. Kendall. 1871—S. G. Cummings, A. B. Reed, Joseph Bird, J. B. Kendall. 1872—S. G. Cummings, George M. Hendon,

A. B. Reed, W. H. Hampson. 1873—S. G. Cummings, Joseph Bird, John F. Grimm, Henry Postier. 1874—S. G. Cummings, J. Bird, J. F. Grimm, H. Postier. 1875—Harrison Waldron, M. M. Foster, Nathan Bowan, William Graham. 1876—N. Bowman, A. B. Reed, H. M. Frith, H. Postier. 1877—M. M. Foster, J. F. Grimm, H. Postier. 1878—N. Bowman, G. D. Bradshaw, J. P. Hogan, J. Rickert. 1879—M. Heffron, Isaac Johnston, Daniel Chrisman, A. G. Gilbert. 1880—D. Chrisman, J. Johnston, George W. Waldron, A. G. Gilbert. 1881—George Sinclair, G. W. Waldron, Samuel Allen, A. G. Gilbert. 1882—G. Sinclair, S. Allen, William R. Hunn, A. G. Gilbert. 1883—G. W. Waldron, D. Chrisman, R. B. Moore, Wm. Graham.

In 1864 supervisor Sheldon moved away, and B. F. Perry was appointed in his stead. In October of this year S. J. McDowell, who had been clerk since the organization of the town, with the exception of one year, died, and his place was filled by Robert J. Perry, who was appointed in November.

At the annual meeting in 1877 but two supervisors were elected, there being a tie between George Welker and L. W. Allard in the vote for a third member of the board. Each received eighty-five votes, and the former was appointed by the board at its first meeting to fill the vacancy.

A great revolution in the sentiment of voters regarding the sale of liquors is made apparent in the records, two years sufficing for the metamorphosis. At the annual election March 14, 1871, the proposition to license the sale of liquors received seventy-five votes, while fifty-five were recorded in opposition. March 11, 1873, there were ninety-one votes cast in opposition to liquor license and *none* for it.

At the fall election in 1858 there were sixty votes cast, of which thirty-one were for a democratic candidate and the balance for the republican. At this time the principal strife was on representatives in the state legislature. At the election in 1880 the Garfield electors were supported by 115 voters, and the Hancock men by eighty-nine, showing a republican majority of twenty-six.

During the war party feeling ran high, and there were only two democrats in town who were bold enough to come forward and vote in opposition to the administration. One of these was a native of Germany and the other of England. Large sums of money were raised to pay bounties to soldiers and support their families.



A meeting of the town supervisors was held December 12, 1863, at which it was decided to levy a tax of one per cent on all taxable property in the town, to be applied in paying bounties to volunteers and in aid for soldiers' families. On the 11th of February, 1864, an appropriation of \$1,100 was made, \$100 to be paid every volunteer enlisted to the credit of Kalmar before the first of May following. A special town meeting was held August 26 of this year, and \$3,200 was voted for the same purpose.

A war meeting was held on the 26th of January, 1865, at which were present the town board and thirty other citizens. It was unanimously voted that every citizen liable to draft furnish fifty dollars on the 4th of February, and take a bounty order drawing ten per cent interest. It was decided to pay a bounty of \$300 to each volunteer.

On the 16th of February, 1865, at a meeting of the board, it was decided not to issue interest-bearing bonds, and a tax of \$5,000 was levied for bounty purposes. On the 28th of March this was increased \$500 by official action. On the 27th of March, 1866, a tax of \$500 was levied by the board to cover deficiencies in the bounty fund, and thus ended the expenditures for this purpose.

Considerable strife was occasioned by various propositions for building bridges. At a special election November 11, 1874, a tax of \$1,000 was voted to be applied in building a bridge over the Zumbro. For some reason this failed to be carried out. Another special meeting was held July 27, 1875. The supervisors were authorized to build two bridges. This was done. In 1882 an iron bridge was built at an expense of \$1,500, one-third of which was paid by the county.

In 1874 a town hall veneered with brick was built at a cost of \$1,400. It stands on the northeast corner of section 22.

The population now numbers 192 persons more than in 1860, at which time it was 691. Ten years later it had increased nearly 300, reaching 972. In 1875 it had decreased to 897, and in 1880 to 883. Of this number 222 are included in the village of Byron—the same both in 1875 and 1880.

#### BYRON VILLAGE.

As indicated by census statistics given above, this hamlet contains only a few inhabitants, but it is peopled with an enterprising class of citizens, and has some advantages. Its site is a happily-chosen one on account of sanitary principles, and also for its pleas-

ant surroundings and fine views. The railroad level here is 260 feet above that of Rochester, which makes it over 600 feet above the Mississippi at Wabasha, or 1220 feet above the sea level. Standing on the platform of the railroad depot, one may gaze on miles of rolling prairie in every direction, which, with its acres of golden grain, or its green pastures covered with lowing kine, makes a scene to delight the eye of the artist, or the practical observer of nature's luxury. Here and there are handsome groves of willow, maple or elm that mark the location of farmers' homes, and hundreds of these happy homes, where abound the evidences of intelligence and culture, are to be found in the near vicinity.

The birth of this village dates at the location of a railroad station here in the fall of 1864. Cars were running in the spring of 1865. The first building put up on its site was a farm house erected by Moses Herrick in 1856. It is still standing and constitutes the upright part of Charles F. Kesson's residence on Dibell street. Another was built in the eastern part of the village during the same season by Samuel Mott. This was burned about twenty-six years after.

When the railroad arrived the northwest quarter of section thirty-three, on which stand the buildings constituting the village proper, was owned by Addison J. Dibell, who donated the depot site to the railway company. He shortly sold the south half of his land to John C. Simonton and G. W. VanDusen, who platted the village. Mr. Dibell then made an addition to the plat, on which most of the residences now stand. Simonton built and operated the first store, now owned and occupied by K. E. Mo. There are two other stores here now, the largest being that of J. B. Kendall, postmaster. This occupies two rooms, each forty feet long, the main one being twenty-two wide and the other sixteen. An annual business of \$20,000 per year is transacted over his counters. In 1869 a wheat elevator and warehouse was built by G. W. VanDusen and Thomas J. Templar. It has a capacity of 20,000 bushels. Large amounts of wheat and other grains have been marketed here in years gone by. In 1872 a cheese factory was built on the north side of the village at a cost of \$2,000, furnished by sixteen individuals. It was operated by this association at a steady loss until 1882, since which time it has been leased by Marvin & Cummack, of Rochester. This firm, which operates several factories in the county, paid one cent per pound for milk during the season of 1883, and gave excel-

lent satisfaction to the farmers. A wagon-shop, harness and two blacksmith shops, with a shoeshop and sewing-machine dealer, represent the remaining industries of this village, except that of its farmer residents.

The charter incorporating the village of Byron bears date of February 20, 1873. This was procured mainly to enable the citizens to suppress the sale of liquor within its limits. The latter were therefore made to cover a large area. It includes all of section 32, the west half of section 33, south half of section 29 and southwest quarter of section 28. Dudley Sinclair, Francis C. Whitcomb and Thomas S. Kesson were named in the charter as judges of the first election. This was held in Gove & Simonton's hall March 11, 1873, and the judges were elected councilmen for one year. Knud E. Mo was made recorder, Perry Newell, treasurer; George H. Stephens, justice; W. L. Standish, constable, and George W. Gove, assessor. On the 18th of March the board held a meeting and passed an ordinance prohibiting gambling or the sale or giving away of intoxicating liquors within the village limits. At the annual election in 1873, the following officers were chosen, forty-six votes being cast: Councillors, E. M. Gilbert, J. R. Webb and D. McLane; recorder, C. E. Gillett; treasurer, K. E. Mo; assessor, A. G. Hurd; justice, Joseph B. Kendall; constable, I. E. Remick.

There is a strong religious sentiment, fostered by two churches. An excellent school is maintained in a large and convenient building provided for that purpose by the enlightened citizens, who appreciate the necessity and value of good schools.

#### DOUGLASS STATION.

This was founded and platted by Harrison Douglass, a pioneer settler of this town, in 1878. During this year a branch of the Winona & St. Peter railroad was built from Rochester to Zumbrota. This crosses section 1, on which a depot is located. Mr. Douglas has built here an elevator, with capacity of 18,000 bushels. During the same season Hiram Miller put up a store near the elevator, which he afterward sold. Mr. Miller subsequently built another structure, in which he keeps the postoffice and some light articles of merchandise; also occupies as a residence. A schoolhouse and half dozen dwellings complete this village.

The number of births recorded in Kalmar township by the town clerk, from 1871 to 1882, inclusive, are severally in the same order

as follows: 21, 6, 8, 22, 16, 22, 36, 29, 17, 26, 21, 10. The deaths recorded at corresponding periods were: 5, 4, 5, 14, 10, 6, 12, 10, 8, 10, 10, 7.

There are now two postoffices within the township, one at Douglass and the other at Byron. Two offices were established in 1856. The first was at Bear Grove, one mile west of Byron's site, and Andrew J. Pritchard was made postmaster. He was shortly succeeded by Dudley Sinclair, and the office was moved a half mile east to Sinclair's residence. It remained here till its removal to Byron in 1865. The second postoffice was at Kalmar, and was supplied from Rochester once a week. John Kinsey carried the mail and James A. Blair was postmaster. This arrangement lasted but a few years.

#### TORNADO.

Saturday, July 21, 1883, was a day that will be remembered long and painfully by many residents in Olmsted county. It was a day that opened on many happy homes and closed on desolated hearthstones. The dreadful hurricane whose visitation had been feared, came at last, leaving destruction and ruin in its path.

About eleven o'clock in the forenoon it made its appearance in this county, in the township of Kalmar, taking an eastern course through the towns of Kalmar, Cascade, Haverhill, Farmington and Viola, in this county, and Elgin in Wabasha county. It is an impossibility to convey any idea of its terrible force; its results must be seen to form an adequate conception of it. Its course was very narrow, not being over 200 rods in width, but instead of keeping a straight line its way was tortuous. The first intimation given of its approach was in a roaring noise, as though a dozen heavy freight trains were coming. During its progress it was so dark one could hardly see, and people had fairly to scream to be heard by others.

Everything indicates that this was a whirlwind, for, while its course was east, at some places it seemed to blow north, at others south, again east, and then west, as the side of the whirlwind seemed to strike its object. Then it seemed to strike the earth at times, and then rise, as there are places of half a mile in length where there is no indication of even a light wind.

To give some idea of the force of the wind, one incident is recited. At Patrick Olvaney's a two-horse cultivator was in the field. This the wind started, carrying it through a field of barley, up a hill ten rods, and down the other side about the same distance. In its



progress it threw the dirt on either side at least 100 feet, leaving as nice a furrow as though it had been done with a man and team.

Mr. John Reed, whose residence was leveled, said he first heard a roaring noise coming from the east, and a cloud passed before his house going about 100 rods until it was met by another, when both returned and his house was instantly laid flat.

Its greatest fury was between Mr. E. A. Clason's, in Cascade, and John Klee's. Mr. Gates, his next neighbor east, lost several buildings, and between this and Mr. Klee's the whirlwind followed the road, and there was not a house left standing in its track. Through this valley the wind storm was not over 200 rods in width.

In the woods where it crossed the Zumbro the whirlwind cut a swath of 200 feet wide, and here its force could be best seen and appreciated. It looked as though a huge mowing machine had been drawn over them, cutting off the tops of trees and peeling off the bark below. The trees were twisted, not broken square off.

The house of Mr. R. Middleton, north of Byron, was blown to pieces, and Mrs. Middleton was instantly killed. She went into the cellar, and the cellar wall fell on her, crushing her to death. Mr. Middleton and a hired man, by the name of Munger, were seriously injured.

George Arnold's house blew to pieces. His daughter's arm was broken and a son had his leg broken. Mr. Arnold had \$100 of school orders in his clock, which was blown away, and he found only \$40 of it.

John Reed's house was blown down, and Mrs. Reed had her arm and knee badly hurt. Mr. Reed was knocked down and held under a rafter, until he was released. There were three children who escaped injury. Their clothing and furniture was blown away and destroyed. One side of the house with a window in it was blown 200 feet and not a glass was broken.

The roof of Fred Postier's granary and seventy tons of hay were blown away. There were over 1,000 bushels of barley in the granary which the rain that succeeded saturated and nearly ruined.

On the farm of Jacob Grassle a new barn 195×60 feet was swept away, with all his farming utensils.

The brick schoolhouse at Stone's corners was flattened, and part of the roof carried 200 feet and lodged against a windbreak. There were two glass lamps in the schoolhouse that were as carefully set on some boards as though placed there by some person.

Crossing the river, the first place is Mr. Joselyn's. Here an idea of the terrible fury of the wind may be formed. His residence is in a grove of large oak-trees that completely surround the house, some of which are twenty inches in diameter. Many of them are twisted short off, about four feet from the ground, and on all sides of the house, yet, strange to say, the only injury the house sustained was the blowing down of the chimney and the breaking of a few panes of glass by a limb. Mr. Joselyn's mother had her face quite badly cut by the flying glass.

In all, thirty houses and twenty large barns in this county were entirely swept away, besides immense damage in the aggregate to other buildings. Twenty-three persons were injured and one instantly killed. Twenty families were left destitute.

Prompt steps were taken for affording relief to sufferers. A meeting of prominent citizens was held in Haney's Hall in Rochester, on Monday morning following the storm, and committees were appointed to solicit and distribute funds, clothing, etc. There was an old relief fund on hand of \$108.70. The citizens at once contributed \$1,321.65, and the county commissioners appropriated \$470. This, with clothing contributed to the value of \$500, made \$2,400.35, which was at once distributed among the needy. This county also gave large sums for the benefit of sufferers outside its limits, the town of Viola alone sending \$500 to Elgin.

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## CHAPTER XVII.

### NEW HAVEN TOWNSHIP.

THIS is one of the most heavily wooded tracts in southern Minnesota. Two principal forks of the middle branch of the Zumbro river flow through the town, and the surface is much broken by the bluffs which always line the streams of this state. The timber, consisting of oak, maple, black-walnut, elm, linn, poplar, etc., which clothe the whole surface, was in great demand for building purposes on the first advent of the white settlers—railroads being then unknown and undreamed of here; and the numerous powers afforded by the South Middle Zumbro were speedily employed in turning sawmills, one of

which is still standing and does occasional service. The North Middle takes a turn for a mile or two through the adjoining town of Pine Island, Goodhue county, where it turns saw and grist mills at the village of Pine Island, which forms the business center for a large portion of the residents of New Haven. This town is described as T. 108, R. 15 W., 6th P. M. It lies in the northwest corner of Olmsted county, and is bounded by Pine Island on the north, Oronoco on the east, Kalmar on the south, and on the west by Milton, Dodge county.

A considerable portion of the territory embraced in the township is owned by residents of the prairie regions surrounding, and yet it is quite thickly populated by a hardy, intelligent people. While many sought the open prairies for farms, others thought they could not live away from timber, and struck into the heavy woods; so that many fine farms are now seen where was once the virgin forest.

The settlement of this town dates from a very early period in the history of the county. In the spring of 1854 M. C. Van Horn came up from Iowa, and visiting the site of Oronoco village, then just started by Hodges, Clark & Collins, struck out thence along the north bank of the river into this township and soon found his present location, on section 11, which he at once pre-empted. He built a cabin during the summer and brought his family the following fall, and has ever since been a resident.

Soon after Van Horn's arrival, Park Amsden settled on section 35. On August 7, 1854, Samuel Brink removed from the Little Cedar river, in Iowa, to this town, bringing with him eight teams and eighteen men, of whom only one, J. N. Palmer, now remains. All took claims to timber land, and sold out to Brink. All hands at once set to work to get out material for building a sawmill. A stock of merchandise was part of the outfit and was placed in a log building as soon as it could be erected, and the new town of "Durango" was soon established. This was at what is now called New Haven, where the Rochester & Northern Minnesota railroad crosses the river. A dam was placed across the stream and a sawmill erected, which was set in motion in the fall of 1855. During the last-named season settlers had come in very fast, and the demand for lumber was active. The first boards turned out were used in the houses of Daniel Sally and Abram Clason. The former arrived and settled on section 36 on June 14; the latter arrived on June 8 and settled on the same section; both still occupy their

original locations. Previous to this time the Kilroys, John and William, and Philo Phelps had settled a little farther west.

The locality last above referred to was called Center Grove, which name still clings to it, notwithstanding it is the site of Douglas Station. Here occurred the first wedding in the town, that of John Holmes and Diana Phelps, which took place at the residence of the bride's father, Philo Phelps, on March 23, 1855; the ceremony was performed by P. H. Bucklin, Esq., of Rochester.

During the summer of 1855 the citizens of the locality desired to have a school, and so clubbed together and put up a small log structure to be used for school purposes on section 36. Ann Losinger, a miss of fourteen, was employed to train the young ideas. This was probably the first school in the county. On the organization of school districts subsequently, the Center Grove schoolhouse was located on the opposite side of the road, in the town of Kalmar, where it still remains. Miss Losinger married R. L. Emerick and lives at Minneapolis.

The first white child born in the town was Bertha E., daughter of William Kilroy. This birth took place March 17, 1855. Miss Kilroy grew up and married John A. Senn, and now resides at Sauk Rapids.

In August, 1856, Mrs. Helen Madison, wife of Henry Madison, died of fever, in the northern part of the town. This was probably the first death that occurred within the limits of New Haven. Mrs. Madison was less than twenty-one years old at the time of her decease. She was attended by her only female neighbor, Mrs. Samuel Campbell.

The settlement of the town during the year 1855 was very rapid, and it would be impossible to name all the arrivals. Many of the original settlers have moved farther west. John B. Bassett filed a claim on a quarter of section 34 in October, 1854; and his son, Joshua B., took a quarter of the same section in May, 1855. This was the first land in the town on which a patent was issued by the government. The instrument bears date of December 1, 1856. Owing to an error in the survey, the lands in New Haven could not be patented until a long time after their settlement. Mr. Bassett happened to be the first to patent his claim after it came in market. Joseph and John Cornwell, brothers, entered claims in May, 1855. In September of the same year Cornelius White claimed the quarter of section 31 on which he still continues to reside. James Button,



now a leading citizen of Rochester, located on section 14 in 1855, and continued to reside thereon for many years, taking an active part in the development of the town. In 1858 he bought the sawmill on section 27, built two years previously by Baker & Madison, which he still owns, with four hundred acres of land in the vicinity.

#### NEW HAVEN.

At one time the village of Durango promised to make a large commercial center, as so many new towns often promise, only to prove like the fruit of Sodom and Gomorrah. After Brink's sawmill was set in motion, numerous people were employed by him in its operation. In partnership with John Holmes he opened an extensive store and supplied a large tract of county with necessities. It is said that the first nails driven in Rochester were purchased here, and that many came from what is now the commercial center of the county to purchase drygoods, etc., in the winter of 1855-6. Early in 1855 a man named Birch opened a "dry and wet" grocery, and some wild carousals were held here, after some shooting had been indulged in, in which the proprietor seemed to be the chief target, the place was closed and its keeper disappeared. Brink & Holmes sold out to Charles Nye in 1856, and Brink decamped the following spring, leaving Holmes in the lurch. All of the latter's real estate was absorbed in paying the debts of the firm, and he had to start anew. His defaulting partner subsequently died in an almshouse. Nye died in 1857 and the property fell into the hands of Daniel Heany. In the spring of 1858 Heany opened a large store and continued also to operate the sawmill till 1864. At this time the development of rival towns, where better powers were afforded by the Zumbro, had deprived New Haven (this was the name taken in 1858, when the state and township were organized) of its prestige, and the village rapidly fell into decay. The sawmill was operated in a small way by one Ambler for four years longer, at the end of which time it fell down and the dam has since disappeared through neglect. Three residences now constitute the hamlet. The building at first occupied as a store is doing service as a stable. A postoffice was established here about 1861 or 1862, with John H. Hill as postmaster, but was discontinued some years since. Considerable sport was made with Mr. Hill by his democratic friends over his degradation in being compelled to accept an appointment from a republican president! The honors of emoluments of the office were never such

as to be sought after, but the office was accepted by its incumbent as a neighborhood accommodation.

#### GENOA.

In the summer of 1857 Barker & Frycke built a dam across the south middle Zumbro on the extreme south edge of the town, and erected a sawmill, which was driven by the power thus secured. This dam was washed away the following spring, and another dam was put in lower down the stream at Genoa, and the present village began to spring up. It is located on the S.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 34, land taken from the government by John B. Bassett, and the present village was platted by him in 1865. In 1858 the first school was opened here, Mr. Bassett donating the use of a building for that purpose. He also erected several buildings for the accommodation of families called here by the growth of business. In 1860 John Kilroy and Leonard Kilbourn built a steam sawmill on the left bank of the river opposite Genoa. This was burned and rebuilt in 1864, but has now disappeared. In 1870 the mill built by Baker & Frycke, at that time owned by Charles Hurd, was washed away with the dam, and that was the last use of water-power at this point. In 1869 Joshua Bassett built a steam sawmill on section 33, half a mile west of Genoa, and operated it till 1879. The building is still standing.

A postoffice was established here in 1872, with Hiram Miller as keeper. The office still supplies mail to a large number of people, many of them farmers of the vicinity. The village numbers about 150 souls. There is a general store which does a thriving trade.

A postoffice was established in the winter of 1862-3, on section 31, and christened Othello. This was supplied from Mantorville, on condition that the patrons of the office carry the mail without expense to the government. David Rowley was employed under this arrangement to go after the mail once a week. A. O. Cowles was postmaster for ten years. He was succeeded by Cornelius White; and the office was shortly discontinued. On the establishment of a post-route between Rochester and Faribault in 1879, the office was reopened, and is supplied with daily mail.

#### CHURCHES.

The town of New Haven contains no church edifice, but religious services are held in several of its schoolhouses, and many of its people are members of societies in neighboring towns. A large share

of the people in the western part of town are communicants in the Roman Catholic church at Pine Island ; and a society of Second Adventists, with headquarters at the same point, is known as the New Haven church, as it had its origin in this town, where its meetings were formerly held, and many of its adherents reside here.

The first religious organization in town was a class of Episcopal Methodists, formed in the fall of 1855 by Rev. S. A. Wing—then a resident of Oronoco—in a log schoolhouse on section 36, where Daniel Sally's garden is now located. This society numbered seven members, with John Lowry as class-leader, and N. Bowman, steward. A Sunday school was organized the following spring, and S. A. Wing acted as superintendent, chorister and secretary. This society was called the Center Grove society, and existed until quite recently. Services are still held at irregular intervals in the Douglas schoolhouse.

A Baptist society was organized at Genoa in the spring of 1868 by Revs. Howard Hamlin and Hiram Miller, and the latter was installed as pastor. George Welker was chosen as deacon, and G. N. Henton as clerk. Services were held in the schoolhouse for about three years, and the class, being weakened by deaths and removals, went out of existence.

Early in 1871 a class of Wesleyans was formed at Genoa by Rev. Henry H. Walker, who ministered as pastor. George Welker was the first class-leader, and Sidney Ottman, steward. Services are still held in the schoolhouse by this sect.

Mr. Walker also organized a class at Othello in the spring of 1872, of which Charles S. Frost was class-leader, and James Olin, steward. This organization has lapsed, but services are still held occasionally at the schoolhouse.

The organization of a Baptist church at Othello dates June 9, 1872. Russell Bentley and A. O. Cowles were the deacons, and Allen Reed, clerk. Rev. Horton, of Mantorville, organized the class and was its first pastor. Services were held in the schoolhouse alternately with the Wesleyans. Both the last-named societies were organized after a series of joint revival meetings, and both have been broken up by mutual disagreements and lack of interest.

#### ORGANIZATION.

The town of New Haven was organized, in common with others in this section of the state, on its admission in 1858. This was the only town in the county to vote against the loan of \$5,000,000 state

bonds to aid in railroad construction, at the election on the question held April 15 of that year.

The first regular town meeting was held in Daniel Heany's store, at New Haven, on May 11, 1858. At this election eighty-one votes were cast, of which Daniel Sally cast the first.

The following officers were elected: Supervisors, John Lowry, chairman, Daniel Sally, Thomas McManus; clerk, John Cornwell (this office has been filled by the same incumbent ever since, having been re-elected from year to year); assessor, J. H. Hodgman; overseer of poor, Arnold Hunter; collector and treasurer, A. N. Bowman; justices, A. B. Chapin, L. S. Howe; constables, Charles Osborn and A. N. Bowman.

The following are the supervisors who have served since the first election, in every case the chairman being named first:

1859—John Kilroy, Dan'l Salley, Sam'l Campbell. 1860—J. M. Cornwell, D. Salley, J. H. Hodgman. 1861—D. Salley, E. B. Speed, Aaron Hamlin. 1862—D. Salley, Russell Williams, Newell Bascomb. 1863—Russell Williams, O. S. Vreeland, Harrison Douglass. 1864—D. Salley, M. C. Marvin, O. S. Vreeland. 1865—J. M. Cornwell, H. Douglass, John H. Hill. 1866—E. D. Wilcox, Russell Williams, Jerome McManus. 1867—E. D. Wilcox, H. Douglass, L. L. Mutchler. 1868—E. D. Wilcox, L. L. Mutchler, Nathaniel Bowker. 1869—Same. 1870—L. L. Mutchler, H. Douglas, T. V. Phelps. 1871—E. D. Wilcox, H. C. Packard, A. Hunter. 1872—E. D. Wilcox, H. C. Packard, H. D. Cornwell. 1873—Thomas Cornwell, H. C. Packard, A. O. Cowles. 1874—Thomas Cornwell, H. C. Packard, J. C. Smith. 1875—Thomas Cornwell, L. L. Mutchler, George Fryer. 1876—J. M. Cornwell, T. C. Farrell, H. G. Wetherbee. 1877—J. M. Cornwell, W. Jillson, L. L. Mutchler. 1878—J. M. Cornwell, H. C. Packard, Martin Flick. 1879—J. M. Cornwell, L. L. Mutchler, Patrick Kennedy. 1880—H. C. Packard, P. Kennedy, William W. Button. 1881—J. N. Cornwell, P. Kennedy, W. W. Button. 1882—Thomas Cornwell, Patrick Kennedy, H. C. Packard.

The following are the town officers elected in the spring of 1883: Supervisors, Thomas Cornwell, chairman, Thomas T. Van Dolah, Patrick Kennedy; clerk, John Cornwell; treasurer, Abram Clason; assessor, Frank Conrad; justice of the peace, Henry Hamlin; constables, Marshall Hickok, Hugh Hammel. Abram Clason has been town treasurer for the last ten years.



The leading political parties have usually been very evenly divided in the choice of New Haven voters. In the presidential election of 1880 the republican electors received 103 votes, and the democratic 89, a total of 192 ballots. In 1881, at the gubernatorial election, three tickets were in the field, democratic, republican, and prohibition. The former received seventy-seven votes, the latter three, and the other seventy-one. The vote of 1880 is the closest index to party divisions.

The population of the township has shown very little increase in the last five years. In 1860, at the first United States census, it was 423 ; in 1870 the number had increased to 860 ; five years later had grown to 1001, and at the last census the roll showed 1011, a gain of ten since 1875.

New Haven has the honor of erecting the first iron bridge in the county. This was erected at New Haven village by H. E. Horton, contractor, in 1875. There are now three iron bridges and one wooden one erected at a total cost of \$4,500.

The proposition to vote a bonus of \$5,000 to the Rochester and Northern Minnesota railroad, on condition of establishing a station in the town, was rejected by the voters, an act of which many citizens feel proud.

The war record of the township is also something of which her people may be proud. On the 20th of August, 1864, at a special town meeting, a tax of \$5,000 was voted, fifty-seven to fifteen, to pay bounties at the rate of \$300 per man for volunteers in the country's service. On the 17th of January following, by vote of nineteen to seven, the sum per volunteer was increased to \$500. On the 11th of March, 1865, a further tax of \$2,000 was voted, twenty-six to twelve, to be used for bounties, but the immediate close of the war rendered the use of this sum unnecessary.

Many hardships were endured by the pioneer settlers of this, as of all new regions, and their present sturdy independence is the result of their experiences. Very few of their descendants, who will people the country under its improved condition, will be able to fully realize the extent of their fortitude and perseverance. A few of the incidents related of early times in the history of the town may not be out of place here.

A. O. Cowles took a claim in his own right, in addition to a purchased claim, and was obliged to live upon the former a part of the time in order to hold it. On one occasion, in the summer of

1856, himself and wife went to the little cabin late at night and proceeded to retire. On rolling back the clothing from the bed, a huge rattlesnake was disclosed comfortably coiled up beneath the cover. His snakeship glided out between the logs of the wall, which was unchinked, and left Mr. Cowles and wife to enjoy their rest undisturbed. On another occasion, in the same cabin, Mr. Cowles held an umbrella over his wife all night while a furious storm raged, as the "shake" roof afforded very little protection.

During the winter of 1854, John A. Bassett found himself one Sunday morning without provisions or money, and set out, with gun in hand as usual, from his lonely cabin for New Haven, in hopes to make some arrangement whereby he could secure something to eat. As he was passing near the river, a deer struggled up the opposite bank and was shot by the lucky hunter. Dressing the animal, he took the hams to New Haven and exchanged them for groceries; and with these and the remainder of the deer's carcass, he found himself again supplied for some time to come with eatables. Shortly afterward he discovered a "bee-tree" containing 150 pounds of honey, and with his store trade thus secured fancied himself extremely rich, and rich he was, for he had a quarter-section of good land, and provision to last him till he could hope to produce something from the ground.

There were no bridges in the early days, and the treacherous Zumbro was often crossed with difficulty. In April, 1856, Joseph Foster attempted to cross the stream near where Othello postoffice is now located, with an ox team and wagon, his object being to take his sister, Mrs. A. O. Cowles, across with her baggage. When in mid-stream the box floated off and the oxen returned to the bank whence they had started. By using his seat for a paddle, Mr. Foster succeeded in rowing his impromptu boat ashore, and found himself on the same side with his team. By attracting the attention of friends on the opposite side, he got a line thrown across and attached it to the oxen so they could be led across; then tying the wagon box down, he again launched from shore and succeeded in making the passage safely.

During the snow blockades of the winters of 1855-6 and 1856-7, the stores were often out of provisions, and people able to purchase the same were almost in a starving condition because they could not be procured. During the latter winter Thomas C. Nye's family was three weeks without flour. At last a supply arrived at Brink's

store, only a mile away, but this had been wet and would hardly be given to swine now. It was, however, relished very highly by many people who had been some time without. It was during the same winter that John Kane's family ate hoe cake without salt for several weeks, as the supply of that simple but essential condiment had been exhausted at the stores. There were no roads in those days, and a snow blockade was much worse than now. Those people who thought themselves extremely unfortunate in being deprived of mails for a week at a time during the winter of 1882-3 have but a faint idea of the trials of those living here in 1856-7. During this winter John Cornwell entertained some friends who were out of provision with bread made from buckwheat flour, beans, honey and tea, and was voted a prince of entertainers.

In the summer of 1855 Joseph M. Cornwell slept with his family under a tree on his claim while his cabin was being erected. One cool night an infant son, Frank, rolled from beneath the cover, and when discovered by his mother was nearly chilled through.

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## CHAPTER XVIII.

### ORONOCO TOWNSHIP.

THE history of this township derives especial importance in relation to that of the whole county from the early date of its settlement, the intelligence and high moral character of its pioneers and present inhabitants, its very superior natural advantages, and the romantic beauty of its scenery. As the village of Oronoco was never incorporated, its history will not be separated from that of the whole township; in fact, they are so closely interwoven as to be inseparable. The township of Oronoco lies on the extreme northern side of Olmsted county, being separated only by the township of New Haven from the western line. It is bounded on the north by Mazeppa township, Wabasha county, with whose history that of many Oronoco citizens is very closely connected; on the east by Farmington, and south by Cascade, and is described as T. 108 N., R. 14 W., of the 5th P. M. The village is very near the western border of the town, and is the principal business point in

the northwestern part of the county. Two principal branches of the Zumbro river unite in the eastern portion of the town, the south branch entering in the middle of section 36, and flowing northward, is joined by the middle or main branch, on section 14, and continuing northward, leaves the town on the northeast quarter of section 3. The main branch has two forks, each of which turns numerous mill-wheels at Mantorville, Pine Island, etc., that unite at the village of Oronoco, on the west side of section 17. Here is a water-power capable of grinding two hundred barrels of flour per day the year around. The same stream furnishes three other valuable water-powers within the township, all of them unimproved at present. The origin of the present name of the river is attributed to the attempts of modern settlers to pronounce the name given it by the early French explorers, who experienced a great deal of trouble in navigating its rapids and shoals, and christened it *Les Ambras*, which signifies, "the embarrass"; this was rendered by the Indians and subsequent white residents as "Zumbro."

Although the contour of the land surface is a great deal broken in the neighborhood of the river, there is no "waste" land in this township, for the soil is everywhere rich, as well on top of the bluffs as in the ravines, or "runs," and the highest points are usually covered with timber, an essential element in the economy of a prairie region. About three-fourths of the surface of the town consists of prairie, and has a rich soil which has nearly all been broken up and subdued. The town, therefore, compares very favorably with others of the county in agricultural value and prosperity.

Oronoco took a very prominent position in the early history of the county. At the time of its settlement, on March 13, 1854, the nearest human habitation was twenty-five miles away, on the north branch of Root river, in the southern part of the county. At that time there was a settlement at Cannon Falls, thirty-five miles northwest; at Red Wing, forty miles north, and Faribault at the same distance west. The site of the present village of Oronoco was pre-empted by Leonard B. Hodges, John B. Clark and Ebenezer S. Collins, partners in the venture of starting a town in the then wilderness, who came hither from Allemaque county, Iowa, then but a new region in the annals of civilization. Messrs. Hodges, Clark and Collins were all bachelors, and proceeded to build a log hut for their common use and protection. This was placed on the left bank of the river, but a few feet above its surface, about on the spot now



occupied by the abutment supporting the north end of the bridge. During the season of 1854 they broke and cropped forty acres, and raised good crops of corn, potatoes and garden stuff on the sod. They also staked out roads to Red Wing, St. Paul, Wabasha and other points.

They spent much time and money in staking out and opening up a stage route from Dubuque, Iowa, to St. Paul, bridging streams, cutting down river banks for fording places, and making it possible for a four-horse coach to rattle through the then howling wilderness on good time ; so that in the summer of 1854 M. O. Walker's stage line was in full blast, making daily trips from Dubuque to St. Paul through the winter of 1854-5, with far more regularity than is now done by railroads.

Robert K. Whitely, of St. Louis, Missouri, and John A. Moore, of New York, were the next permanent settlers. November 4, 1854, Capt. James A. George, of Ohio, afterward Colonel of the 2d Minnesota reg., settled in Oronoco, and was accompanied by his brother-in-law, Michael Pearce. They returned to Ohio for the winter, and in the following spring returned with their families.

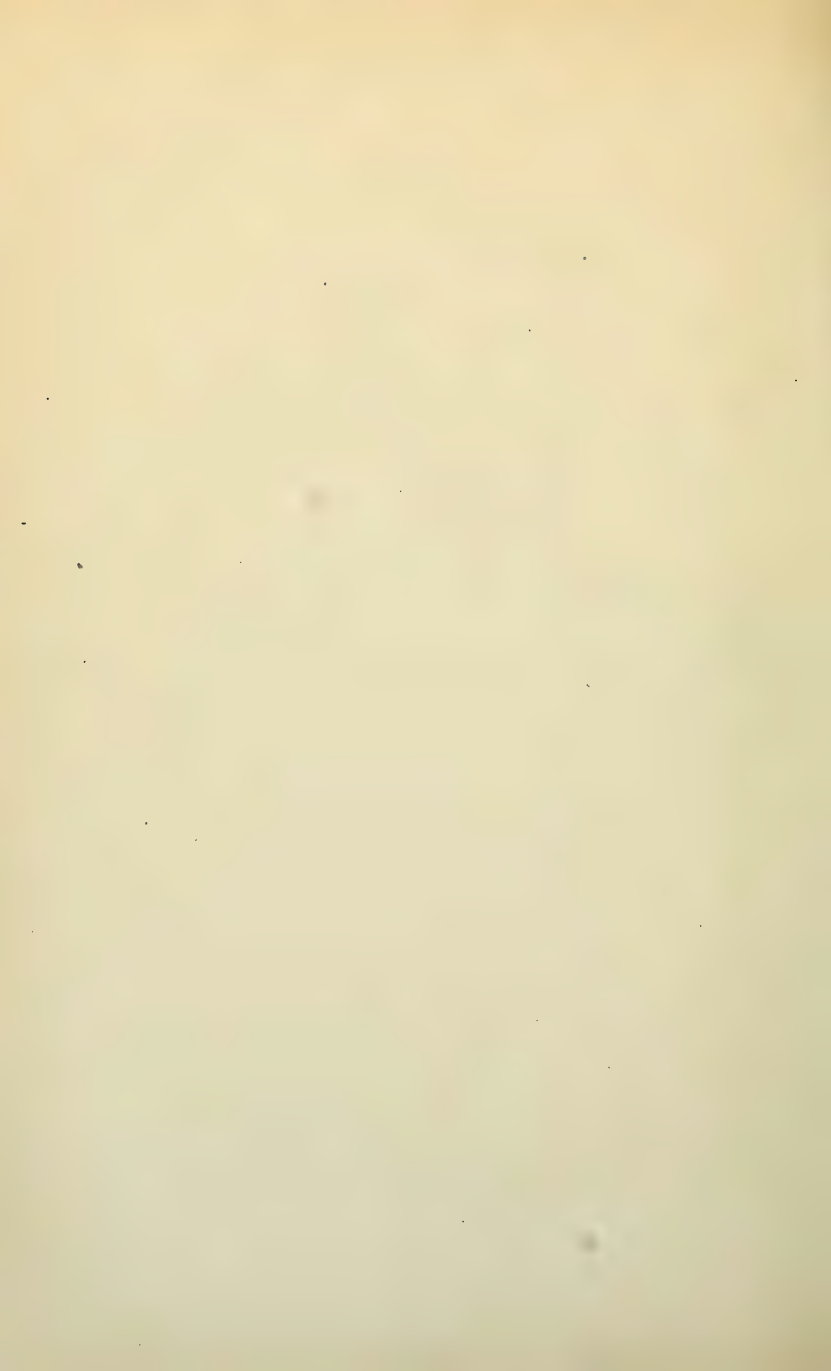
E. C. Stevens moved to Oronoco from Red Wing in the summer of 1854 ; this was the first family that settled in Oronoco, the preceding settlers being all single men at that time.

In 1854 Hodges, Clark & Collins donated ten acres, including the mill-site and water-power, to Ezra Odell and James Holliston, who built the first mill—a sawmill—during the following winter. The first store was built and opened by John A. Moore. The first hotel was erected by S. P. Hicks in the fall of 1854, it was built of logs, 18 × 24, with a lean-to 12 × 24 in rear ; and in this rude hostelry from sixty to one hundred men were sheltered and fed daily.

During the winter of 1854-5, Reuben Ottman, a lawyer who made numerous pecuniary investments in the town, and J. D. Terry, a farmer, arrived ; and during the following season the arrivals were very brisk, both of farmers and business men. During the latter part of this season and the winter following, D. J. Bascomb, T. A. Olmsted and H. D. Evans built a gristmill, and in 1856 Messrs. Allott and Wilcox built a sash, door and planing-mill ; so that by the summer of 1856 the village of Oronoco presented a lively appearance. With the manufactures carried on and the trade in supplies for the settlers pouring in to all parts of this region, business was very brisk, and more money changed hands at Oronoco in one week



L. B. JOSSELYN.



at that time than in a month now. During the summer of 1859 the manufacture of chairs was added to that of sash and doors, but the "great freshet" in June of that year swept away the whole machinery, and it was never replaced. There are still used in the town chairs made in this mill, and perhaps all along the lower Zumbro, as they were scattered by the waters all the way to the Mississippi. The flouring-mill changed hands several times, and was several times remodeled and added to; in 1873, the property having fallen into the hands of A. D. Allis, who sold a part-interest to A. Gooding and D. S. Hebbard, of Rochester, a large merchant mill was erected, in which were placed eight runs of stone, and shortly after three sets of rolls. Three years later high water carried away the flume, and with it the millstones, one set being recovered two miles down stream, and one was never found. These damages were repaired, and the mill continued to turn out its 200 barrels of flour per day till November 25, 1879, when it was entirely consumed by fire, with a storehouse containing 30,000 bushels of wheat, and inflicting a loss of \$90,000. This was a sad blow to Oronoco, as the operation of the mill gave employment to a large number of coopers, millers and other laborers, and furnished a first-class home market for the grain of the farmers. A small grist-mill with three sets of stones is now operated on the power by A. D. Allis, who hopes to be able soon to enlarge its capacity and engage again in merchant milling. Could capital be induced to improve the power now daily wasted in this town by the erection of cotton, paper or other mills, this town would soon become a center to surpass any other in the county or immediate vicinity. Its water-powers far exceed those of Rochester in value, and with their improvement railroad advantages could be readily secured.

#### RAILROAD.

During the season of 1878 the Rochester and Northern Minnesota Railway was built from Rochester to Zumbrota. It enters this township on the southwest quarter of section 36, and running in a general northwesterly direction leaves on section 5. One station is located on section 14, called Oronoco Switch. A depot and small grain warehouse constitute the buildings at this station. Douglass Station, in the town of Kalmar, is but a few rods from the town line, and Pine Island, a lively rural village, at which is a station, adjoins the township on the north. Two mixed trains pass each way daily over this line, and the people of the town are thus accommodated



with quick and easy communication with the county's business center, and the world generally.

It was generally believed at first that Oronoco was destined to be the leading town in this portion of the state, and capital and farmers began to concentrate in the neighborhood. The first meeting of the county commissioners was held here August 27, 1855, and it was confidently believed that the county seat was to be permanently located here. The boundaries of the county had not then been mapped out, but at the next meeting of the territorial legislature the present boundaries were established and Rochester became the natural center of the county. The commissioners were Col. James George, Brigham Barrows and James Rutan, and held their second meeting in September following the first at Rochester. Up to 1858 there was no organization of townships, the citizens voting by precincts. The whole vote of this precinct in 1857 was 154, of which the republican candidates received 92 and the democratic 62. The precinct embraced, besides this town, Farmington, Cascade and New Haven. At present the town of Oronoco casts a very small republican majority on a party vote, but during most of the time in its history there has been a democratic majority of ten to fifteen. A very large proportion of the original settlers have died or moved away, and the few remaining ones treasure the memory of early days and relate many incidents and hardships attendant on their settlement here.

After the first settlers had staked out their claims, on section 17, and erected a log hut thereon, Messrs. Hodges and Clark returned to Iowa after supplies and left Collins to hold the claim, surrounded by Winnebago and Sioux Indians, who were very friendly at that time. In the latter part of April the absentees returned and brought provisions, farming implements, a small blacksmithing outfit and five yoke of oxen. Clark was fond of female society, and soon began to pine for the sight of calico; he remarked to a prospector who visited the trio that he would make a present of a town lot to the first white woman who visited them. About this time a family named Sackett had settled at Pine Island, and a daughter of the family hearing of this offer came down one Sunday, accompanied by her brother, and was duly awarded a deed of a lot.

The first family to settle here was that of E. C. Stevens, who made the second claim in town about the first of August, 1854; and shortly after S. P. Hicks arrived with his family, and built the hotel

as above noted. The following year he built the wing of the present hotel, to which was shortly added the main portion. This property has changed hands many times, and is now owned by H. Brockett, of Rochester, and occupied by James Hellenbolt.

The birth of the first white child in Oronoco occurred in January, 1855, and was that of a Swede child, whose paternity is unknown; its mother was employed as a servant in the hotel.

In September, 1855, occurred the first wedding in town, at the residence of John B. Clark, who had in the meantime returned to "the settlements," secured a bride, and set up housekeeping. The principals in this wedding were James Holliston and Mary Stephenson, and the ceremony was performed by Frank Kimmerly, Esq., the first judicial officer of the place.

The first birth in town of which any record is made was that of Ida, daughter of J. B. Clark, who is now married and residing in Kansas.

It was often said in the early days of Oronoco that the place was so healthy as to make it necessary to kill a man in order to start a cemetery. This grew out of the accidental death of a young man named Stukeley, who was buried here in the fall of 1855. This youth, in company with a friend, was riding with L. B. Hodges and Captain Letts, from Red Wing to Oronoco. Young Stukeley and companion rode on a trunk, while Hodges and Letts sat in the seat of the wagon. The young men had a shotgun which they frequently used in firing at prairie-chickens, those birds being very numerous at the time. Each time after firing, the gun was placed across the seat between its occupants with the muzzle pointing back. Despite the caution of Mr. Hodges, Stukeley persisted in drawing the gun toward himself by the muzzle, and when about half-way through the trip he thus caused the discharge of the weapon by catching the hammer on the seat, and received the charge, without any scattering, in his head, entering at the chin and making no larger wound than a bullet would have made. He sank without a quiver. His body was brought by his companions to this place and interred next day. One corpse had been previously buried here, that of William McVeigh, a millwright, who died of fever at the hotel in May, 1855. The nearest physician at that time was at Mantorville, seventeen miles distant, and he could not be summoned in time to be of any benefit to poor McVeigh. The first physician in town, and probably in the county, was Dr. H. Galloway, who settled here in 1856.

## CHURCHES.

Religious services were early held here, although the first was some three months subsequent to the first in the county. In September, 1855, Rev. Norris Hobart, presiding elder of the Winona district of the Methodist Episcopal church, held a quarterly meeting in the store building of Evans & Withrow, which is still standing on the east side of Center street, on the south side of the river. At this service there were twenty-five or thirty persons present, all males, and when the preacher requested that a collection be taken up, one of "the boys" passed a hat, securing nearly \$100. On counting the money, the elder was very much astonished, and casting his eyes first on the cash and then around over the little group, he remarked that it was the largest he ever saw taken up in a crowd of such size. In 1857 a society of Episcopal Methodists was organized here, in what was then known as the Pine Island Circuit, over which Rev. J. M. Rogers presided as pastor. This society did not exist very long.

The Protestant Methodists soon after began to hold services here; but we can learn of no permanent organization under its jurisdiction.

The next society organized was that known as the "Disciples" or "Believers." In 1863 Noah Wirt, a miller, who also preached the doctrines of this sect, settled here; several families of similar faith settled here about the same time, services were soon held according to its teachings. The first preaching was in November of that year, at the schoolhouse, by Rev. Charles Rowe, of Iowa, and, in December following, a society was organized, with Noah Wirt and Levi P. Hill as elders. George W. Wirt, E. C. Stevens and Charles Whitney were the trustees, the latter being also clerk of the society; the deacons were Solomon Wise and G. W. Wirt. Services were continued in the schoolhouse until 1865, when a building was bought and fitted up as a church. A Sunday school was organized at this time, with Thomas Lindsay as superintendent. Regular church services were held for some time after this, but on account of the death or removal of many members, they soon ceased, although irregular services occurred for some years. The church building still stands at the corner of Minnesota and Walnut streets, but in a neglected and dilapidated condition.

In the summer of 1861 a series of tent meetings were held at Oronoco, under the auspices of the Advent church authorities, at Battle Creek, Michigan. A society of this faith was organized, and continued eight or ten years. Rev. John W. Bostick was the first

pastor, and Thomas Harlow, elder. The people composing this church were largely residents of New Haven, and the society being weakened by removals, they joined the church at Pine Island, which is now the center in this region.

The only society at present in existence here is the Presbyterian. This was organized in October, 1870, by Rev. Thomas Burnett, who continued as its pastor for ten years, and through whose untiring efforts a neat church and parsonage were built at a total cost of over \$4,000, of which \$3,500 is invested in the church building; this is a very neat structure, with handsome steeple, classroom, and comfortable seating capacity for 130 persons. The society has never been very strong, and its services are largely supported by non-communicants. This speaks highly for the character of Oronoco people, who are willing to support the gospel, even though it be not interpreted according to their individual beliefs. At the organization of the Presbyterian society it numbered but four members, three being ladies. The trustees of its property were S. R. Terwilliger, L. B. Hodges and Leonard Jenne, who had contributed liberally toward securing it. The church edifice was begun in May, 1871, and completed in March of the following year. The society now numbers fifteen communicants, of whom but two are males. The Sunday school in connection includes sixty members, with L. A. Dudley as superintendent, L. Huntsinger, secretary and treasurer, and Volney Reifsneider, librarian. Mr. Burnett, the first pastor, was succeeded by Rev. W. C. Beebe, and the latter by Rev. E. B. Linn. Services are now conducted by Rev. E. C. Haines, a Congregationalist, in the absence of a settled pastor.

#### SOCIETIES.

Oronoco Lodge, No. 52, I.O.O.F., was organized February 28, 1876, with the following officers: T. F. Clark, N.G.; S. R. Terwilliger, V.G.; P. W. Ware, R.S.; M. W. Clay, P.S.; G. W. Wirt, Treas. The lodge has prospered, and now has a membership of thirty, with over \$300 in its treasury. The meetings are held every Saturday evening at its hall in the second story of the schoolhouse, and are a means of profit and interest to its members. The present officers are: Joseph McLane, N.G.; L. A. Dudley, V.G.; M. W. Clay, R.S.; S. R. Terwilliger, P.S.; Moses Richardson, Treas.

The good people of Oronoco have always been active in temper-



ance work, and organized a lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars June 30, 1875, which is known as Oronoco Lodge, No. 110, with the following list of charter members: Misses Maggie Hill, Nellie Clay, Sarah Hill, T. C. Campbell, May Wirt, Ida A. Clay, Messrs. M. W. Clay, M. A. Beebe, L. G. Hannon, H. G. McMaster, Eugene Hubert, George Brooks, Augustus Clay, J. W. Hill, B. F. Hill, and John Isabell. Like all similar organizations, this lodge has seen periods of great prosperity and of depression. It now numbers twenty-five active members, and is a means of much good in the community. The first officers were as follows: M. W. Clay, W.C.T.; Maggie Hill, W.V.T.; J. W. Hill, W.R.S.; L. G. Hannon, W.F.S.; May Wirt, Treas.; Eugene Hubert, W.M.; Sarah J. Hill, I.G.; M. A. Beebe, O.G.; L. G. Hannon, W.C.; The meetings of this lodge are held every Friday evening in its hall in the second story of the schoolhouse. It is officered at present as follows: M. W. Clay, L.D.; Isaac Reifsneider, P.W.C.T.; B. F. Hill, W.C.T.; Mrs. L. A. Dudley, W.V.T.; Volney Reifsneider, W.R.S.; Miss Nellie Clay, W.T.; Miss Millie Bascomb, W.F.S.; H. H. McCray, W.M.

#### NEWSPAPERS.

To Oronoco belongs the honor of publishing the first newspaper in the county. It was originated by the town proprietors with whom were associated Reuben Ottman and E. Allen Power. This company was organized in the fall of 1856, and the first issue of the "Oronoco Courier" appeared in December of that year. Dr. Hector Galloway was employed as editorial writer and the bulk of editorial labor devolved on "Ned" Power. John R. Flynn superintended the mechanical department. The paper, of which several copies are still preserved, presented a very neat typographical appearance and was ably conducted, comparing with the modern journal of much older and more pretentious communities to the disadvantage of the latter. Its inception and continuance in a settlement but three years old is a fitting testimonial to the enterprise and public spirit of its originators. After just one year of profitless publication its continuance was abandoned, the last number exhibiting the same vim and editorial spirit which characterized its whole existence.

During the winter of 1879-80 M. W. Clay, an enterprising and public-spirited citizen, constructed a printing press of his own invention, never having examined any press, using one of the patent rolls of the lately destroyed flourmill for a cylinder. Having completed

this press he purchased an outfit of type and engaging a compositor began the publication of the "Oronoco Journal" May 21, 1880, which he continued until June 10, 1881. The second impression of this press is still preserved in his files, the first having been retained by the compositor, and would put a Bullock perfecting press to the blush for neatness and clearness of impression. The roller, or cylinder, was made to travel over the forms, which remained stationary, and it was found an easy matter for two persons to print 500 impressions per hour. The "Journal" was not issued as a financial venture, but its character was quite superior to the demands of the community and it paid its way. The whole outfit was sold on the discontinuance of the paper and is now doing service in the West.

#### SCHOOLS.

In 1856 the Oronoco Literary Association erected a building on the site of the present schoolhouse, and donated its use to the public for school and religious purposes. During this year school was maintained in this building, taught by Miss Sarah Pearce, who subsequently married Capt. William Dennison and now survives him, dwelling at Acton, Dakota. The district was organized at the first meeting of the county commissioners and was the second in the county. In 1857 the building was purchased from the literary society and was used for school and religious meetings until the erection of the present building in 1875. Under the act of March 1, 1866, the district was reorganized as an independent one. After several ineffectual efforts a vote of sufficient tax for the erection of a suitable building was secured and the present edifice was erected. It is of brick, two stories high, and contains four large schoolrooms, with halls, etc. Its cost with furniture was \$4,000, and it is probably the best building for its cost in the state, and is a credit to the town and county. D. J. Bascombe was the contractor; the school board consisting of Messrs. S. R. Terwilliger, William Phelps, T. B. Lindsay, W. C. Buttles and James Barnett, the latter being clerk. The school now consists of two departments, taught by L. A. Dudley and wife, and is attended by many outside the district, on account of its superior standing.

#### ORGANIZATION.

The political town of Oronoco was organized in 1858, with L. B. Hodges as chairman of town board and John McMaster town clerk. The first census of which any record can be found was taken

in 1870, when the population was found to number 753 souls. In 1875 the number was 881, and the last census in 1880 shows a total population of 914.

The valuation of taxable property in 1863—the first year of which the county auditor's office contains a record—was as follows: Real estate, 20,702 acres, \$71,312, an average of \$3.445 per acre; personal property, \$13,602; total, \$84,914. The last valuation, nineteen years later, shows a large increase with a slight addition to the number of acres assessed, as below: Real estate, 22,618 acres, \$241,922.12, an average of \$10.01 per acre, town lots being valued at \$15,425; personal property, \$48,610; total, \$290,532.12.

The number of voters enrolled according to law in 1882 was 221, although but 143 votes were cast at the fall election. The vote of 1881 for governor is the best index attainable to the present political status of the voting population. The result showed as follows: Republican 82, democratic 65, greenback 6.

The destruction of the town records by fire in 1864, along with the residence of the clerk, Charles Whitney, renders any knowledge of public officers and acts previous to that time somewhat uncertain. It is however certain that the town did its full share in sustaining the expenses of the late war and in carrying forward all necessary public works. In 1857 a wooden bridge was placed across the Zumbro at the village of Oronoco, which fell through the undermining caused by heavy rains in 1866. The present handsome iron structure was then erected and bids fair to do service a great many years. In 1874 a wooden bridge was built over the main river near the northeast corner of section 11, and still does service. To Mitchell's history of Olmsted county, issued in 1866, we are indebted for a record of the principal town officers previous to 1865, as well as for numerous other valuable hints in the prosecution of this work. From the organization of the town in 1858 to 1864 inclusive the following gentlemen served as chairman of the town board of supervisors and town clerk respectively: 1858—L. B. Hodges, John McMaster; 1859—William M. Pearce, A. G. Lawyer; 1860—J. A. Frank, A. G. Lawyer; 1861—William M. Pearce, E. Odell; 1862—3—E. C. Stevens, Eli D. Hewitt; 1864—John McMaster, Charles H. Whitney.

From and including the year 1865, the following served as town officers, the first being chairman of the town board, the next two his associate supervisors, and the fourth town clerk: 1865—William M. Pearce, J. F. Ruber, J. G. Burch, G. S. Barnes; 1866—William

Lindsay, Elvin Clason, J. C. Fifield, Charles H. Whitney ; 1867—G. W. Wirt, D. J. Bascomb, J. C. Fifield, C. H. Whitney ; 1868—John McMaster, E. J. Rice, E. Hubbard, Russell Williams ; 1869—D. J. Bascomb, W. B. Webster, H. I. Wood, C. H. Whitney ; 1870—A. D. Allis, Abel Hannon, W. B. Webster, M. W. Clay ; 1871—M. M. Clark, J. F. Ruber, L. G. Hannon, M. W. Clay ; 1872—S. R. Terwilliger, L. G. Hannon, W. B. Webster, M. W. Clay ; 1873—S. R. Terwilliger, J. F. Ruber, W. C. Buttles, P. W. Ware ; 1874—S. R. Terwilliger, Henry Moulton, A. Huntsinger, P. W. Ware ; 1875—S. R. Terwilliger, A. Huntsinger, L. G. Hannon, P. W. Ware ; 1876—G. W. Wirt, A. Huntsinger, Amos Moulton, P. W. Ware, the latter having been elected at every election held since ; 1877—S. R. Terwilliger, Amos Moulton, Arthur Huntsinger ; 1878—M. W. Clay, Daniel Webster, Amos Moulton ; 1879—G. W. Wirt, Fred. Rucker, Jr., L. G. Hannon ; 1880—the same ; 1881—S. R. Terwilliger, balance the same ; 1882—S. R. Terwilliger, Levi L. Herrick, Avery Brockway.

During the war of the rebellion Oronoco furnished its full quota of men for the United States service without resort to a draft. A number of her sons fell at the front and in hospitals where they had been placed by the hardships endured in defending their country. Some died at home from disease contracted in the south. Many still survive, but few have escaped the inevitable injury to constitution which army life entails. Some are receiving pensions which were earned, while many deserving ones continue the weary journey of life unrewarded, and sometimes unappreciated. The following is a complete list, as near as can be learned, of those who enlisted from this town to put down the rebellion : George Atkinson, D. W. Allen, Manning Buley, Orlan Bascomb, Mark W. Clay, Jacob E. Cutshall, John B. Clark, William Carley, George Campbell, Alexander Cregg, Andrew J. M. Chase, John Campbell, Alfred Clark, William Durand, Samuel S. Everson, A. Ellithorpe, Caleb C. Emery, Perry Ellet, Samuel Furman, Jediah Furman, Daniel Fetterman, Anson A. Ferguson, John A. Frank, Levi L. Herrick, L. J. Hanson, Leander G. Hannon, Clarke L. Hubbs, Ira B. Hewitt, Lewis L. Herrick, Alexander M. Johnson, Augustus Kellogg, George S. Keelar, Ozias D. Keelar, H. J. Kirkham, James P. Kirkham, Joshua M. Kirkham, Alfred G. Lawyer, H. Moulton, John Oakins, Hiram C. Owen, George W. Prettyman, Francis Robson, William S. Robinson, Aaron Rutledge, William A. Stebbins, Roswell Stanton, E. Q. Stod-



dard, J. O. Stoddard, B. F. Stocking, W. A. Stevens, Fletcher A. Sheldon, Charles H. Turnley, Peter M. Thompson, George Terry, Henry W. Webster, Francis W. Waldron, Hiram B. Wilcox, Louis Zirn.

Of those above named, Amos Keelar died from the effects of a gunshot wound received at the battle of Fredericksburgh; Lieut. Alex. Cregg died in hospital at Gallatin, Tennessee; Daniel Fetterman died in hospital at Louisville, Kentucky; George Atkinson died in Andersonville prison; H. J. Kirkham died in Libby prison; Roswell Stanton died of disease; Orlan Bascomb, in hospital at Gallatin; John Campbell in Arkansas; Ebenezer S. Collins, one of the town founders, enlisted in St. Louis, and was mortally wounded while serving on board the gunboat Essex, at the capture of Fort Donelson.

Immediately following the Indian outbreak in the fall of 1862, steps were taken for the organization of a state militia for the defense of the frontier and the reduction of the murdering redskins. Oronoco raised a company of sixty-five men, of which M. W. Clay was made captain; S. R. Terwilliger, first lieutenant; David Hannon, second lieutenant. This company was mustered in the state service September 5, 1863, at which time Capt. Clay was made colonel of the regiment, and Lieut. Terwilliger adjutant. This regiment, the 13th, was composed of the following companies: Salem, 82 men, Capt. Sanford Niles; High Forest, 37, Capt. T. H. Armstrong; Rock Dell, 68, Capt. S. H. Humason; Kalmar, 90, Capt. George Sinclair; High Forest independent Co., 55, Capt. Edward Buck; Oronoco, 65. The regiment mustered for drill at Rochester on Saturday, September 28, 1864, and this was the end of its service. The following is the list of those enlisted from Oronoco,—the first being lieutenant, the following four sergeants, and next six corporals: E. Cregg, L. D. Hannon, Anson Wilson, Joseph D. Wiles, Caleb C. Emery, Joslin G. Burtch, Henry Moulton, Warren H. Stone, George Barnes, Charles B. Carley, Edward S. Stodart, D. J. Bascomb, John Atkinson, W. C. Butties, Avery Brockway, W. S. Bush, Alfred Clark, Erastus Crowfoot, George Clark, Jr., Nelson Cary, John Clark, W. H. Dean, Lewis Eaton, Elnathan J. Gates, Elisha A. Hoyt, Wallace Harlow, S. F. Helle, James Newton, Amos Moulton, Almond Moulton, S. Mosher, Michael Pearce, Frederick Ruber, A. K. Stone, William Stebbins, O. Stodart, E. Stodart, M. C. Van Horn, Rudolph Vroman, Chauncey

Vroman, Seth Wilson, Lyman Wilson, George W. Wirt, Alvin Wirt, James White.

The above list includes nearly every able-bodied man in the town who was not already serving in the United States army. A great many horses were also taken from this section for service against the Indians. It was no uncommon thing for a farmer to be stopped on the road by Uncle Sam's officers and deprived of his team, being given a receipt for the same, which enabled him to collect its value from the proper authorities. Sometimes during the war horses were so scarce that cows were used in plowing, and thousands of acres of grain were cut with a cradle, for want of teams to draw reaping machines, women and children taking an active part in the harvest.

One of the most interesting episodes in the history of Oronoco was the excitement incident to the discovery and search for gold in the vicinity in 1858-9. During the former year it was discovered that the soil along the banks of the Zumbro rivers was rich in minute particles of the precious metal, and that even in the village a careful washing would turn out "shot gold." The richest deposits were found below here in the edge of Wabasha county, four or five miles away. Oronoco, was, however, the base of operations, and large numbers of people flocked hither in the hope of attaining sudden wealth. A company called the "Oronoco Mining Co." was formed, and in the fall of 1858 sluices for washing gold were erected. The approach of winter<sup>\*</sup> prevented their operation, and the high water of the following spring carried them away. After some delay, more capital joined the enterprise, and more extensive preparations than those of the previous season were made for wringing from the auriferous earth its treasures. The works were finally completed on a certain Friday evening in June. It was generally agreed to return to Oronoco for a rest, and a vigorous mining campaign was planned to begin on the following Monday. A few of the more persevering ones set to work on Saturday, and on cleaning up at night took out a lump of gold which they subsequently sold for twenty dollars. On Monday morning, the memorable freshet of '59 was found to have swept away all traces of the mining materials, and with them the capital and courage of the company. Such veteran miners as D. J. Bascomb, and others, having steadily refused to invest in the scheme, confidence in it began to wane, and nothing of any account has ever been done in that line since. There are nu-

merous citizens still resident here who have frequently taken as high as twenty "colors" from a single panful of dirt; and many assert that a small investment of capital in sluices, etc., would enable men to at least make good wages in washing gold. During the "boom" of '58-9, real estate took on very high values in this village and all along down the river in the vicinity of the "diggings."

The township of Oronoco was so named by Mr. Hodges, on account of his fancy for the name, with one letter different, as applied to one of the leading rivers of South America. Many incidents in the experience of its early settlers, both pathetic and amusing, might be related, and a few are here given.

The winters of 1855-6 and '56-7 were exceedingly severe, and the latter was also characterized by deep snows, with alternate crusts. At this time deer were very plenty here, and, being unable to run on account of breaking through the crusts, were often slain with axes, clubs, or other convenient weapons. The same teams that went to Galena after millstones this winter took loads of venison thus slaughtered.

W. B. Webster, the first settler on Greenwood Prairie, east of the river, brought in a large stock of cattle in the summer of 1855, and had much difficulty in finding grain for them during the following winter. He relates that on one occasion he set out for the village to buy corn, crossing the stream at what is still known as Webster's Ford, with two yoke of oxen. There being no roads, he was obliged to dig his way through the snow as best he could, consuming three days in making the round trip; and he succeeded in procuring only six bushels of ears of corn!

At this time nearly all supplies were brought by team from Iowa. There were a number of families dwelling on the southern border of this town, and at one time there was not flour enough among them to make them a meal apiece. A half-dozen heads of families came over to Oronoco, where a load of flour was expected to arrive from the Mississippi, and although a large load came in, so great was the demand that the parties above alluded to secured but fifty pounds in all.

The Indians were very numerous in this locality during the early days, and often encamped in large numbers on the banks of the river a mile below the village. In the summer of 1854 a Sioux brave applied one evening to Messrs. Hodges, Clark and Collins for lodging in their hut, expressing by signs that he had been driven out

of the camp of his companions. He was made comfortable on the floor and all retired to rest. In the morning Mr. Indian was missing and a little reconnoissance showed that their best horse, a handsome brown mare, had also disappeared. A short circuit made by the party discovered the trail of the mare—ridden of course by the culprit—leading in the direction of Faribault. Pursuit was immediately made on the remaining horses and the missing animal was found in the afternoon, near Faribault, the chase having been so hot that the thief was obliged to abandon his booty and take to the cover of the timber. The pioneers were surrounded by Indians a good deal of the time, but never suffered any serious annoyance from them.

On one occasion while A. S. Gary was busy at work on his farm he was approached by a boy who assured him that a grove near by was full of Indians; although he could not see them he could plainly hear their conversation. To appease the boy Mr. Gary repaired to the grove, where he found two German women picking berries.

In the summer of 1855 Newell Bascomb came here on a prospecting tour, and being pleased with the outlook he decided to stay. His family was still in Ohio, and he wrote to his wife to sell their house and lot, if possible, and join him. A purchaser was found for the property, but much time was consumed in sending on the deed for Mr. Bascomb's signature and in returning it. About December 1, Mrs. B. started with her four children and succeeded in catching the last boat up the Mississippi at Galena. This was frozen in at La Crosse, and she was obliged to stay there two weeks before she could cross the river. Her husband being notified of her intention to start, had given her up for lost—as many people perished on the prairies that winter—when she arrived at Oronoco the last of December. The youngest two children had their feet frozen, and but for the large amount of bed-clothing in their baggage, which was used for wrappings, all would have perished.

During the summer of 1855 there were several severe storms, and the squatters who dwelt in wagons suffered much inconvenience. On two different occasions A. S. Gary's family was completely drenched during thunderstorms, the first time by the demolition of his wagon-cover, and the second time by the roof of his cabin being blown away. An infant child thus baptized still lives at home to relate the experience. E. K. Dyer, a neighbor, who had been a sailor, said he was lost on the prairie. On the water he could tack



his ship and dodge the severity of a storm, but here there was no remedy. These remarks were caused by the blowing away of his house-roof.

In the spring of 1856, while Avery Brockway was absent securing his claim, a bear that was pursued by E. K. Dyer's dog jumped through the window of his cabin. Mrs. Brockway, who was alone, made all haste up the ladder into the garret and pulled the ladder up. Dyer procured a gun and shot the animal through the window, and Mrs. B. was released from her imprisonment. Mrs. Seth Wilson had a similar fright while her husband was pre-empting land at Winona. Their cabin had not been chinked, and a bear annoyed her all one night by walking around the house and frequently thrusting his nose in between the logs. With the advent of day he departed, but she was not partial to staying alone for some time after.

During the early days of the village, anyone who would settle and help on business was welcome, "and no questions asked." Among the early settlers was Frank Kimmerly, a native of Canada. He was shortly elected justice of the peace, and, although he was not naturalized as a citizen, continued to fill that office for several years. A laughable incident in his official career is thus related: In common with others, he spent much time in playing cards at a saloon then existing here. One day a general drunken row took place, and to sustain the dignity of the law, he caused the arrest of some of the participants. The justice having sobered off next morning, opened his court and proceeded to take evidence. The first witness called was directed to tell what he knew of the affair, and began in this way: "Yer honor and another drunken Irishman —" "Order!" called the court, "the witness must not implicate me. Now go on." "Well, yer honor, yerself and another drunken spalpeen—" "Silence!" yelled the court, and finding it impossible to prove anything without compromising "his honor," the case was dismissed.

E. Allen Power, or "Ned" as he was called, was another unnaturalized Canadian who took a prominent part in public affairs, being elected to the lower house of the legislature at the same time that his senior newspaper colleague was chosen as a senator. But then "Ned" was such a jolly good fellow, nobody thought to inquire whether he was a citizen.

The saloon business has never prospered much in Oronoco, to the credit of her citizens be it said. In early times, when the inhabitants

were largely transient, this business flourished. In the license year of 1871-2 a saloon was kept here, but never since, although liquor was sometimes sold in defiance of law by druggists. Public sentiment is very pronounced in opposition to liquor drinking at this time, and at the last vote on the license question, but *two* votes were cast in its favor! This surely supports the assertion in the opening of this chapter that Oronoco is peopled by a high class, morally and intelligently.

The Zumbro river, which contributes so much to the beauty and prosperity of this region, is a somewhat treacherous stream, making unexpected rises and containing many deep basins. The lives of many persons have been sacrificed to satisfy its greed for human life, no less than eight having been drowned in its waters within a radius of one mile from the mill, most of them at the dam, and some have had miraculous escapes. The first person drowned was Eddie, a young son of Alfred G. Lawyer, an early resident. A four-year-old son of John Irish was the next. Soon after, two young men, John and Alden Hill, were drowned by venturing on weak ice over the pond. A son and daughter of Arthur Nichols and a young man named Rose, the latter in May, 1880, fed the insatiate waters. In June, 1880, Dr. Farrand, a valuable citizen, lost his life, as elsewhere related. At Webster's Ford, four miles down the river, two persons have been swept away by high water. In 1876, Miss Myra Wood attempted suicide by plunging into the mill-flume, and was rescued by an apparent miracle. On October 3, 1881, while fishing below the dam, James Barnett and a companion were drawn under the fall and barely escaped death.

On the organization of the state in 1858 there was very little taxable property in the town, and much distress prevailed on account of the forcible collection of taxes. W. C. Buttles was the first town treasurer, and was required to make collections according to the law at that time. When he found that in some cases he was compelled to levy on the only cow of a family, or otherwise cause great hardship, he refused to do anything of the kind and proceeded to Rochester and resigned his office.

## CHAPTER XIX.

### FARMINGTON TOWNSHIP.

FARMINGTON is the northeast corner town in Olmsted county, and is bounded on the north by Guilford, Wabasha county, east by Elgin in the same county, south by Haverhill, and west by Oronoco. The town is situated on Greenwood prairie, conceded to be one of the most beautiful and fertile prairie districts in the northwest. The surface is mostly gently undulating, though in a few instances the bluffs or hills, with nearly or quite perpendicular sides, rise to a height of one hundred feet or more, giving to the landscape an exceedingly grand and romantic appearance. The soil is a rich black loam, producing, in abundance, grass, grain and vegetables. It is also well adapted to the growth of trees and the various kinds of shrubbery. For long distances the highways on either side are flanked with rows of willow, maple, lombardy poplar or cottonwood trees ; while on nearly or quite every farm the buildings nestle in charming groves of these trees, supplemented with evergreens, fruit-trees and shrubbery, affording, not only grateful shade in summer, but protection in winter, besides giving to the view evidences of good taste, culture and refinement, at once cosy, homelike and beautiful.

There are in the town a large number of never-failing springs, affording abundance of pure, cold water for man and beast, but there are no considerable streams of water. A branch of the Zumbro river runs through the town of Oronoco on the west side of Farmington, and on the north side the river runs in Wabasha county, near to the line, but in no place touching Farmington township. A fine body of timber skirts the town, on the west and north, affording a good supply of timber for fuel, fencing, etc. The day is not far distant when the inhabitants of the town will be able to procure sufficient fuel from the groves of cottonwood, willow, poplar and maple of their own planting. The name, Farmington, is significant and appropriate, as no township in the state is better adapted to farming purposes than it, and husbandry is the principal occupation of the inhabitants.

The first settlement made within the township of Farmington was in the spring or early summer of 1855. In this year Z. Tumbleson, Junia Lathrop, Mr. Ball and Mr. Parsons came in and settled in the southeastern part of the town. Mr. Parsons died the next winter, which was accounted as the first death occurring in the township. The next year, as near as can be ascertained, Henry Dresser, Thomas Brooks, Orrin Oaks, John Walker, Chris. Nemier, and a few others, came in and took claims near the south line of the town. In the same year Archibald Baker, S. H. Baker, A. M. Baker, Adelbert Baker, Phillip Hope and Christopher Hope took claims in the northwest part of the town, which neighborhood was subsequently, and now is, called Farm Hill. In the year 1857 Farm Hill received quite an addition to its population in the persons of Asa Kidder, J. F. Hodges, Ethan Kimball, Robert and John V. Little, A. M. Hall, P. Russell, Osborn Earl, J. R. Hagerty, Dan. McArthur and others. From this time on for several years the town was rapidly settled, and its broad acres of virgin soil were broken up, and responded most generously to the touch of a well directed, patient and intelligent industry.

Among those who settled in the northeast part of the town in 1856 there were Conrad and Harm Schacht, Fred Kehn, Martin Guhrt and Peter Yonk. These were all Germans, and they were soon followed by quite a number of families from the fatherland. There are now a goodly number of German residents in the town, among whom are some of the most wealthy, enterprising and thrifty citizens.

Amos Parks, Asa Hart, Stephen Greenwood, W. H. McLavel and O. Cooley had settled in the town previously to 1860, and in the spring of that year E. P., A. N. and Ethan A. Whiting came in. These were followed the next spring by Simeon Lindesley, H. G. Eaton, and others.

The town was organized in 1858, at a town meeting held at the residence of Hans Schucardt, situated near the geographical center of the township. The organization was effected by the election of the following-named officers: Supervisors, Ethan Kimball, chairman, E. Evans, P. Russell; town clerk, T. H. Rose.

The following-named gentlemen have held the office of chairman and supervisor since that time: Ethan Kimball, John Little, Amos Parks, Thomas Brooks, Ethan Kimball, John Little, Thomas Brooks, M. C. Fuller, William Searles, A. N. Whiting, John Little.



E. P. Whiting, D. McArthur, John Little, C. E. Stacy, William Searles, John Ingleby.

The town meetings were continued to be held at the residence of Mr. Schucardt until the year 1864. After this they were held at the residence of A. N. Whiting, for three or four years. The place of meeting was again changed, going to the residence of M. Kutzhes. From this the place was changed to the village of Potsdam, some ten years since, where it still remains.

In 1858 a state road was laid out between Rochester and Lake City, which soon became and now is one of the most thoroughly traveled highways in the country. This road passes through the western part of Farmington, and the traveling being brisk and the country rapidly settling, the little modest and beautifully located village of Farm Hill sprang into existence. The village is situated on the Rochester and Lake City road, about thirteen miles north of the former named city.

About the year 1860 a postoffice was established at Farm Hill, and Ethan Kimball was appointed postmaster. Thomas Frost, James Arnold, J. H. Williams and Asa Kidder have since held the office of postmaster, the latter gentleman named being the present incumbent. A daily stage was at this time being run between Rochester and Lake City. Mr. Kimball, about this time, brought on a good stock of general merchandise, and P. Russell opened a hotel. A. M. Hall and Mr. Kimball were afterward engaged in the hotel business.

In point of fertility and beauty of location, Farm Hill was the center of a modern Eden; the citizens were moral, intelligent and enterprising, and the farming community thrifty and prosperous, and in the summer of 1868 two small but neat and convenient church edifices were built, the one under the auspices of the Baptist denomination, the other under the Methodist Episcopal church. The Baptist church is of wood, 30×40 feet in size, neatly finished, and having a seating capacity of about one hundred and twenty-five persons. The cost of the church was about \$2,200. At that time, and for several years afterward, the Baptist had a flourishing society there, but from deaths, removals, and other unfavorable circumstances, the society has become considerably reduced in numbers, zeal and efficiency. The following named ministers have been pastors of the church: Revs. Bennett, Cummings, Horton, Ross and Swartz.

As the Methodist Episcopal church edifice has a history somewhat interesting, and essentially different from churches in general, it is proper to recite briefly some of the facts and incidents connected with the construction and ownership of the church in question.

At a quarterly conference held by the Methodist Episcopal church at Forest Mound schoolhouse, in Wabasha county, October 20, 1866, a board of trustees was elected to hold church property for Elgin circuit. The certificate of their election or appointment was, however, deemed defective, as it was not properly acknowledged.

In May, 1868, Robert Little, of Farm Hill, by deed of warranty conveyed a piece of land situated in that locality to the trustees named, and to their successors in office, in trust for the benefit of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States of America. There was at this time at Farm Hill a strong and vigorous Methodist Episcopal society, and in the year last named, a pretty and convenient little church was erected upon the site in question. The edifice was 24×40 feet in size, surmounted with a handsome spire, the whole finished and furnished in pleasing and convenient style. For several years the society was regularly supplied with ministers appointed by the Methodist Episcopal Conference of the State of Minnesota, and the society continued to flourish under the labors of the ministry. The following named clergymen have been assigned to the Farm Hill charge: Revs. Teter, Barkalean, Follinsbe, Stuntz, Brown, Matson and Wilford. Regular services were held in the church until the year 1880, when the society, having become weakened from deaths, removals and other depressing circumstances, the work was practically abandoned and religious services no longer supported. At the annual conference of the Methodist Episcopal church for the State of Minnesota, held October, 1880, an order was made authorizing the sale or removal of the pretty little church. Accordingly, in January, 1882, the board of trustees appointed and authorized Revs. S. G. Gale and A. Wilford as agents for the trustees, to cause the removal of the church to South Troy, a point about four miles north of Farm Hill. In the following April a strong force of men was set at work tearing down the structure, and removing the material to the new site. The work went on until nearly all of the building, excepting the frame and siding, had been demolished and carted away, when Robert Little commenced a suit in the district court to restrain defendants from

the further removal of the church and to recover damages for the destruction and removal of the property. C. C. Willson, Esq., of Rochester, was retained as counsel for plaintiff; Messrs. Jones & Gove, also of Rochester, attorneys of record for defendants, and L. Barber, Esq., of Winona, of counsel for the same. These proceedings, of course, put a stop to any further efforts in demolishing and removing the building.

The trial of the case came on at the June term of court, Hon. C. M. Start presiding. After a full hearing of the matter, the court decided, substantially, as follows: That plaintiff was the owner of the land in question, the title not having passed from him on account of the trust clause in the deed, but denied plaintiff any right to damages, he being out of possession of the property. Further, that defendant be enjoined and restrained from doing any damage or committing any waste on the lands described in the deed. Upon this judgment both parties took an appeal to the supreme court. The case has been argued before that court, but as yet no decision has been rendered.

Besides the two church edifices heretofore named, there are three others, all erected under the supervision of the German population of the town.

The Evangelical Lutheran church, at the village of Potsdam, was built in the summer of 1872, and dedicated the same year. The building is of wood, 30×50 feet in size, with posts twenty-two feet in height. It has an arched ceiling and will seat about two hundred and fifty persons. A fine parsonage was also built the same year. There are about four hundred members connected with the church organization, representing seventy-five families. A large and flourishing sabbath-school is kept up; besides, the society has a week-day school under its care and supervision. The value of the church property, including church edifice, parsonage and schoolhouse, is estimated at \$3,000.

The following named ministers have served as pastors of the church in the order in which their names here occur: Revs. Simeon Deuber, August Sippel and Martin Stuelpnagle, the latter being the present pastor.

At a point two miles south and one-half mile west of Potsdam, and on the Elgin and Plainview road, stands the Evangelical Association church, built in the summer of 1876, at a cost of about \$3,000. It is a wooden structure, 36×48 feet in size, neatly finished, and

has a seating capacity for about three hundred persons. On account of some adverse circumstances, the membership of the church is rather small at present, numbering only about forty persons. Still, religious services are held regularly, and the band of Christian worshippers, though small in numbers, is zealous and devoted. Rev. W. C. Sydow, was the first pastor of the church. He remained two years and was followed by Rev. C. Oertle. The latter served as pastor three years and was succeeded by Rev. M. Knopf. Mr. Knopf's term of pastorate terminated in May last and he was followed by Rev. J. L. Stegner, the present incumbent. Connected with this church there is a sabbath-school, numbering about fifty members.

During the prevalence of a severe thunderstorm in the summer of 1875 the building was struck by lightning and badly damaged. There was some insurance on the property, and the building was soon put in a condition for occupancy.

In the year 1870 or thereabouts, a German Methodist Episcopal Society was organized in the northwestern part of the town, religious services being held in private residences in the neighborhood. Rev. George Hoerger was the first regularly appointed pastor of the society, he having commenced his labors there in October, 1875, and remained two years. During the first year of Mr. Hoerger's pastorate, the society, with commendable zeal and enterprise, erected a fine little church edifice. The building is located about two miles west of the village of Potsdam, and about one mile southeast of Farm Hill. The structure is of wood, 26×40 feet in size. It is surmounted with a neat and pretty spire, and will seat, comfortably, 150 persons; cost \$1,500. The society now numbers about forty members. There is in connection with the society a flourishing and devoted sabbath school, consisting of about fifty members.

Rev. H. Schnitker followed Mr. Hoerger in the fall of 1877, as pastor, and remained with the society two years. He was succeeded by Rev. Fred. Hogrefe, who remained three years. He was followed by Rev. Henry Roth, the present minister in charge.

On a beautiful elevation near the northeast corner of the town stands the pretty little village of Potsdam. The village contains about twenty buildings, and in its inception, growth and inhabitants it is essentially German. The Potsdam postoffice was established in the year 1872, with Louis Quinten as postmaster. John Ingleby was appointed postmaster in 1877, and is the present incumbent.



In 1874 John Ingleby opened a store of general merchandise, and three years afterward another store was opened by William Gearsen. About this time C. Seirn built and opened a small hotel. A saloon (connected with the hotel), a blacksmith's shop, millinery store, harness-shop, two shoe-shops, a meat-market, one store, general merchandise and a paint-shop comprise the principal business establishments of the place.

In 1873 and 1874 the United States Wind and Engine Pump Company at Batavia, Illinois, put up a wind flouring-mill at Potsdam. The means for the construction of the mill were procured from the contributions of the farmers residing in the vicinity and amounted to \$6,000. The mill has two run of stone, one for flour, the other for feed, and does custom work only.

Two shocking and fatal accidents have occurred in the mill, the main particulars of which are narrated as follows: During the prevalence of a heavy wind on the 9th day of April, 1875, the large wheel became unmanageable, when four men went up into the tower to turn the machinery, if possible, so as to throw the fan to the wind. The party was headed by William McCarren, a very resolute and athletic young man, about twenty years of age, and who worked in a blacksmith-shop in the village. The others who went up with him were John Haft, August Tradup, and Henry Peters. On getting to the top of the tower the men were crowded into a very small space, on a platform about three feet wide. McCarren, standing on a timber and in a cramped position, thrust a crowbar into the machinery, which was running at a fearful rate, to stop it, but the motion of the machinery threw him off his balance, and his foot slipped under a large revolving cog-wheel. As he felt himself drawn into the machinery he cried out, "Boys, save me, I'm caught!" and a couple of the men standing, horror stricken, caught him by the legs and body and tried to draw him out. They held on to him until he was drawn in nearly up to his shoulders, when, finding they could not help him, but were in great danger of being themselves drawn in, they let go, and one of the men, Henry Peters, frightened and appalled at the sickening sight, jumped a distance of twenty feet to a landing below in the tower. He was bruised but not seriously hurt.

Poor McCarren's last words were those given above; he was thought to have died at once after uttering them. His body was rapidly drawn in and passed through a space of less than two inches

in width between the wheel and a timber, crushing it into a pulp of quivering, bleeding flesh, held together by the torn clothing, and hanging from the timbers in a horrid, shapeless mass. The arms and part of one of the legs were not so thoroughly crushed, but were badly torn and mangled by the cogs. The whole body passed through in this way clear to the head, which was stopped by a crowbar in the hands of one of the men. The head was afterward severed from the body with a knife in order to extricate it. All this took place within a space of two or three minutes. The tower was dripping with blood from the crushed body. The horrified men attempted to stop the mill by crowding grain into the stones, but had to abandon the effort, and after a few hours the mill in some way stopped itself.

The crowd of men who had gathered from the vicinity were panic-stricken by the shocking character of the accident. Some of them thought the remains must not be removed until after the coroner had been notified. Not knowing exactly what course to take, E. P. Whiting, Esq., living two miles south of the scene of the accident, was sent for. By his advice the mutilated remains of the unfortunate man were soon gathered up and removed. Messrs. Henry Coranske, John Haft, Henry Weinsley and Fred Swabe ascended the tower and brought down the remains, depositing the greater portion of them in a grain sack. The facts were so plain, and the sad occurrence so clearly accidental, that no inquest was considered necessary. It is a singular fact that McCarren's watch was found in his vest pocket and was running regularly after the accident. On the day but one following, Mr. L. N. Berg, of Rochester, went out to Potsdam and prepared the remains for interment. They were deposited in a casket and taken to St. Paul, where his family lived, for burial.

Friday, December 9, 1876, was a fearfully cold and windy day. On that day Mr. Emil Seeman, the miller, with oilcan in hand, ascended to the top of the tower to oil the machinery, preparatory to grinding, the mill then standing still. While Mr. Seeman was on the platform the check-rod, which holds the mill from running, suddenly broke. Under the force of the high wind, the great wings began immediately to revolve with terrible rapidity. In an instant of time the big cast-iron wheel, weighing about a ton and a half, bursted, and one of the large pieces was hurled on to the platform on which Mr. Seeman was standing. The platform gave way under the weight and force of the portion of the broken wheel, precipi-

tating the unfortunate man toward the earth, a distance of over thirty feet, where he lodged, back downward, on some timbers, a portion of the framework of the mill. The poor man was crushed and mangled in the most horrible manner. Some sharp fragment of iron had penetrated the left thigh, and being wrenched sideways, tore through the flesh and muscles, inflicting a ghastly wound. The right leg was broken in two places, besides various other portions of the body were terribly bruised and lacerated.

Mr. Seeman, apparently dead, was removed to a house and a messenger dispatched to Dr. Waist, of Plainview. After an examination of the man's injuries, the doctor expressed his conviction that the case was a hopeless one. The patient retained his consciousness remarkably clear, and related minutely the circumstances of the terrible accident. He, however, continued to sink, and in about thirty hours after the catastrophe death came to his relief.

Mr. Seeman was an upright, industrious man and highly respected in the community. He was twenty-eight years of age, a German by birth, and had been in this country for several years.

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## CHAPTER XX.

### VIOLA TOWNSHIP.

Viola—namesake of Duke Orsino's ladylove!  
To learn who gave thee so sweet a name,  
We have searched the records all in vain;  
By some fond lover 'twas doubtless done  
That the warlike title Washington  
Might not banish acknowledged grace  
And deter those who sought thy fair face.

If a slight deficit in the west tier of sections and a small excess in the north tier be excepted, this township is six miles square, and it contains 22,977.90 acres. Its location is as follows, T. 107 N., of R. 12 W., of the 5th P.M. It is bounded by the following townships: north, Elgin; east, Quincy; south, Eyota; west, Haverhill.

### PHYSICAL FEATURES.

In the southern part of the town is a watershed—the source of three streams that flow toward as many points of the compass. This

elevation is about 600 feet above the Mississippi river at low water at Wabasha, Minnesota, and nearly 1,200 feet above the ocean. The streams above mentioned are named as follows : Silver Creek, north branch of White Water river ; middle branch of W. W. R. Tributary to these creeks are many wadies which afford excellent drainage for the entire township. The more nearly level portion of this tract is a strip about a mile in width, extending quite across the south side, thence along the western boundary to the north line ; and the remainder is mostly undulating, but occasionally slightly hilly.

There are no sloughs of importance nor any large tracts of forest. The groves owned by Messrs. L. E. & W. Somerville and Mr. D. F. Mack are the most noted because each has been the scene of several celebrations.

The above are burr-oak copses with borders of American aspens. Springs of water are numerous, and this useful liquid is ordinarily obtained in abundance by digging twenty-five feet deep in the valleys, and upon the higher land by working through about forty feet of dirt and into the rock from forty to sixty feet. All the water is considerably impregnated with lime.

Viola has no mines, but her Trenton limestone quarries, the largest of which is on the farm of Enoch Dickerman, are excellent. The soil is a rich black loam from one to four feet deep, with a substratum of yellow clay about sixteen feet thick ; underlying this is gravel in the valleys, and upon the upland Trenton limestone—with the exception of a little St. Peter and Shakopee in the northeast corner—throughout the township. Valuable fossils from this section, some of which have been pronounced superb by geologists of the “Hub,” are on exhibition in the Natural History Rooms, of Boston. Grains and grasses indigenous to this latitude grow luxuriantly. All the native trees are deciduous, but evergreens have been successfully cultivated.

#### WILD ANIMALS.

Early settlers give accounts of deer, and occasionally an elk or a black bear was seen ; but all large wild animals fled or fell prior to 1860. The prairie-wolf is the most important animal, *feræ naturæ*, that remains. Striped, gray and pocket gophers, at the expense of their lives, afford entertainment for the boys every summer. Hares are plenty and have been very destructive to orchards. The only scavenger is the black hawk, which not only devours carrion, but



worries elderly ladies and bachelors who are caring for broods of fancy chickens. Every spring the air is vocalized by the sweet medley of the bobolink's notes, and the whip-poor-will whiles away the summer evenings with his plaintive melody.

#### ACCOUNT OF FIRST SETTLEMENT.

While making a reconnoissance of southern Minnesota in the summer of 1853, Mr. George Whitman discovered a large spring of remarkably pure water, the center of an exquisitely beautiful landscape. To the north, east and south was prairie. Its verdancy bespangled with lilies and wild roses, while at the west a forest of sturdy oaks furnished grateful umbrage to the weary traveler. He returned to Iowa, and in the spring of 1854 formed an equal partnership with Carl H. Bierbaum. They hired Michael Mark, and with five yoke of oxen, one wagon, a 22-inch breaking-plow, a few blacksmiths' tools, and provisions for several months, journeyed in search of the famous spring, with altogether better success than Ponce de Leon had in his search for the "Fountain of Youth," for they found it about the first of June, 1854, and immediately built a log hut a few rods northwest of the celebrated spring that delivers its waters within the walls of H. D. Morse's creamery on the S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 27, in Viola.

This first building in Viola was  $12 \times 14$  feet, one story high, with a half window, six panes of "eight-by-ten" glass, and ash bark for roofing and door. A large fireplace with "cat-and-clay" chimney afforded means by which this dwelling was heated and ventilated, and, however much the floor was swept, it showed dirt.

These pioneers put up a log blacksmith-shop near at hand, and Michael Mark became the first smith in town.

Soon after their arrival they commenced turning over the virgin sod, and in about seven weeks the grass roots of eighty acres, in a plot nearly square on the N.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Secs. 34 and 35, lay withering under the scorching rays of a midsummer sun. The ensuing winter, while Mr. Whitman was in Iowa, Messrs. Bierbaum and Mark "got out" enough fencing, mostly burr-oak, to inclose the breaking with a six-rail worm fence with stakes and rider. In the summer of 1855 they raised thirty acres of oats and fifty acres of corn, and each kind of said grain was sold the following winter, at their cabin door, for seventy-five cents per bushel.

Messrs. Bierbaum and Whitman sold their improvements to one

Harkins and Jacob Ostrander, in the fall of 1855, for \$1,200, dissolved partnership soon after and Mr. Whitman withdrew his interests from the vicinity ; so Carl H. Bierbaum is really the first settler who came to Viola to stay, and A. Harkins, who settled here June 6, 1855, with his family, was the first married citizen of the township.

GENERAL HISTORY AND ITS INCIDENTS.

The early settlers used ox-teams and went fifty miles to market. Today no man in town is more than six miles from a railroad station, and an ox-team on the road frightens all small children. Then wheat hauled fifty miles was sold for forty-five cents per bushel ; now the same quality is worth one dollar per bushel on the farm.

October 20, 1860, the land came into market, and the man who was so fortunate as to own a horse-team was sure to have his neighbors for company on his trip to the United States land office at St. Peter, Minnesota. For their fare the passengers shod and fed the team, and all hands camped under a large tent made by contributions of pieces of cloth from several families. Their store of supplies, shared in common, was prepared by the brave women who faced the red man at home, and prayed for the safe return of their bold and hardy husbands.

May 11, 1858, the settlers of this town. assembled at the house of Rufus M. Cordill, elected Abram Harkins, chairman, and R. F. Cunningham, clerk pro tem. On motion the meeting was adjourned immediately to the residence of Jacob Ostrander, and the following town officers were elected : Supervisors, Abram Harkins, Jacob Ostrander, Rufus M. Cordill ; town clerk, R. F. Cunningham ; assessor, Abner Whiton ; town collector and overseer of the poor, Thos. S. Rutledge ; justices of the peace, John Morrow and Francis Whiton ; constables, John J. Lovelace and Jeremiah Sweney. It was at that meeting that the township was organized and named Washington. Resolutions relating to the sufficiency of fences, and prescribing the time that stock might run at large, were passed. The penalty for a violation of said resolutions was a fine of from \$1 to \$25. The first road is described as follows : Commencing at the south quarter post of Sec. 34, T. 107 N., R. 12 W., extends north to the north quarter post of section 15, thence N. 13° E., 120 rods and 20 leagues ; thence N. 7° W., 226 rods ; thence N. 14° W., 300 rods to the north line of section 3, and to a point 34 rods E. of the north quarter post of said section. Declared a road February 12, 1859.

A report of the town meeting held April 5, 1859, shows that at that time the township was called Viola, but when that name was given it does not appear. By-laws were adopted prohibiting the running at large of stock from September 1 to May 1, or nights at any season of the year; penalty, \$1 to \$5. All persons using diligent means to secure stock were exempt from payment of fine. The first lawsuit was entitled Henry H. Shanton, plaintiff, vs. D. W. Woodward, defendant; plaintiff's attorney, M. W. Fay; defendant's attorney, Alfred Olds. The case was brought before John Morrow, justice of the peace, in November, 1857, and adjourned from time to time until the following May; meantime there was a change of venue, and the suit was ended before some justice of the peace in Eyota township. Costs \$400, matter in controversy ten barrels of lime. The lesson was a good one, Violians from that time have preferred settlement to litigation.

The winter of 1855-6 was intensely cold; there was not much snow, but in some instances snow remained all winter in the chambers of houses that were occupied. All old settlers claim that the depth of snow in the winter of 1856-7 has not been equaled since. Deer were slaughtered with clubs and axes. There was a thick crust that rendered the use of teams impracticable, and the settlers hauled wood long distances on hand-sleds; no road was kept open across the town.

January 1, 1857, Jerry Sweeney led Orpha Kitchel to the hymeneal altar, and they were joined in the holy bonds of matrimony by Rev. Joseph Roberts. Both parties were residents of the town, and they have the honor of being the first couple married in the township. The ceremony was performed at the place where the first settlement was made. The wedding guests were R. F. Cunningham, J. Williams, Litle Miller, and their families, and C. H. Bierbaum. Mr. Williams lived within one mile, but the road was in such condition that he was compelled to travel eight miles to attend that wedding.

No grain was sown in the spring of 1857 until May 6, and then farmers had to begin work in the center of their fields. In the summer of 1863 chintz-bugs were quite thick, but nothing more was seen of them until 1878, when they damaged the wheat crop considerably and were more destructive each succeeding year, until in the summer of 1881 they allowed the husbandmen only about six bushels of wheat per acre, and besides they diminished the corn crop

about one-fourth. The autumn of 1881 was very wet. It rained continually for about six weeks. Chintz-bugs did no damage in 1882. The winter of 1882-3 will long be remembered as the time when diphtheria prevailed as an epidemic. The only person ever frozen to death in town was Patrick Dugan, who perished about October 20, 1863.

The "great New Year's storm" of 1864 was so severe that cattle were frozen to death in stables. In 1864 or 1865 machines for sowing grain were introduced. The year 1865 marks the period of the commencement of depredations of rats. The floors of granaries were close to the ground and straw stables were in general use. In fact everything was favorable to a rapid increase of the vermin. Houses and cellars were soon infested with the voracious rodents, and the destruction they wrought was amazing. Precaution in the construction of buildings and a change from extensive grain raising to rearing stock has thwarted these pests, so they give the thrifty farmer comparatively little trouble. The winter of 1865-6 was very severe, and the terrible storm of February was typical of the New Year's storm mentioned above.

In 1866 the potato-bug (Colorado beetle) made its appearance, and in a few years rendered the raising of that useful tuber a matter of great cost and difficulty. Wet seasons killed the bugs and spared the potato. Wheat was worth \$2.50 per bushel in 1867. Farmers made extravagant purchases and paid high rates of interest, frequently twenty-four per cent per annum. The first rich fruits of new farms were devoured by interest, consequently bankruptcy ensued or a generation of indebtedness was incurred.

There was a bountiful crop of wheat in 1868. Heavy rains during the harvest of 1869 did much damage; the ground was so soft that it was with much trouble that reapers were used. Farmers deemed the soil too wet to plow; there was, perhaps, one-seventh of the plowing done, and the ground "froze up" October 12. Poor crop the following season. A driving rain soon after harvest in 1870 spoiled the much grain in stacks and shocks. Beginning one week after harvest in 1872 the weather was decidedly and unmistakably pluvius for about five weeks; then there was a period of like duration without any rain. That season was damaging to the reputation of Minnesota for No. 1 wheat.

The epizootic influenza that had its origin in Canada, September 30, 1872, and spread rapidly south and west during the ensuing win-



ter, afflicted the horses of Viola, and the young folks of that period will doubtless relate to their grandchildren the experiences they had attending dances and parties with ox-teams for conveyances.

The North Viola postoffice was established July 1, 1875, at the southwest corner of the E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Sec. 4, John F. Pratt, postmaster. At first the office was supplied with a weekly mail, but it was soon superseded by a daily. The stage line was from Eyota to Elgin, twelve miles, and R. N. Stoddard was the proprietor and driver; also a penny post for persons along the route who fastened mail receptacles on front-yard fences. "North Viola" was changed to "Corra" in 1880.

Several farmers raised forty bushels of wheat per acre in 1877. In the spring of this year a few cases of smallpox created considerable excitement, but the vigilance of the supervisors—M. L. Sawyer, R. G. Richardson and Ezra Dickerman—prevented the spread of the disease, and only one case proved fatal.

A very promising crop of grain in the summer of 1878 was rendered almost worthless by excessively hot, wet weather during July. In the spring of 1878 the town was bonded for ten thousand dollars in aid of the Rochester & Plainview railroad. The securing of these bonds and the contest for the location of a depot, which subsequently occurred, excited jealousies among neighbors, which in some instances caused an absolute severance of friendly intercourse. The town has refused to pay her interest on the bonds, so it is for the seer and not the historian to foretell what the outcome will be.

The following description is sufficiently correct to indicate the course of said railroad across the town: Commencing, for a place of beginning, at a point about sixty rods east of the southwest corner of section 34; running thence nearly due north about 350 rods; thence almost straight to a point about ninety rods east of the center of section 8; thence directly to a point about thirty rods west of the northeast corner of the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 4.

There is a grain elevator at the place of commencement, and also one in the village of Viola; consequently the inhabitants have easy access to market.

#### SCHOOLS.

The first district in town No. 44 was organized April 8, 1857. The first school was taught by Henrietta Carl, now wife of William Bear, in the summer of the year 1858 in the house of Robert Cunningham. Number of scholars, twenty-four.

In 1858 the settlers of district No. 44 met and proposed that each should haul a certain number of logs and help to build a schoolhouse with them ; this proposal was faithfully carried out, and a log structure sixteen feet square was erected nearly midway on the north line of section 26. Logs were riven for seats. In this temple of learning Linus Clark was the first to hold legal sway over the untutored youth of the new country. The location of this schoolhouse is a criterion that enables the reader to arrive at tolerably correct conclusions as to what portion of the township was at first most densely populated. At present there are seven schoolhouses and six school districts in the town. The schoolhouse in district No. 44 is on the S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 26. This is commonly called "The Morrow District."

On the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 5 stands the most costly school edifice in the township, and with an elegant organ within, and a three hundred pound bell in its belfry, it challenges every rural district in Olmsted county to produce an equal in convenience and beauty. This district is known as "The Dickerman District."

The N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 27 is made attractive by the school building in district No. 92. This schoolhouse is very much like the one in Dickerman's district. District No. 93 has "The Stone Schoolhouse" situated at the center of section 11. Its location affords a view of the country for many miles in every direction. The schoolhouse in district No. 94 is near the southeast corner of section 30, and it is the smallest one in Viola.

Union Center district No. 115 has the largest building and the greatest number of scholars, usually forty or more during the winter term. There is a German school in a building at the southeast corner of section 35. There are one hundred and eighty pupils in the town enrolled this winter. The educational interests of the town have always been carefully fostered, and as a rule the schools have a good reputation abroad. Spelling schools at the Viola town hall are commonly attended by audiences of two hundred to three hundred persons, and the champion is not likely to lose his laurels in a like contest in any of the adjoining towns.

The saddest incident to be mentioned in connection with this subject is the death of Robert Bray, an estimable young teacher, whose parents lived in Elgin township. In the winter of 1865-6 he was employed as teacher in district No. 92 of Viola, and at the end of a week about the middle of February he attempted to go

home, but perished with cold when nearing the fireside that he so eagerly sought.

The teachers of early days were compelled to teach from eight o'clock A.M. until five o'clock P.M. each of five days in every week of the term.

#### CHURCHES.

The first Sunday school was organized in June, 1857, at the house of Rufus M. Cordell, and the officers were: superintendent, Rev. J. Roberts; assistant superintendent, John Morrow, Esq.; secretary and librarian, R. F. Cunningham. Through the intercession of one Howard, eastern parties made the school a present of a library of about sixty volumes. Commencing in the winter of 1857, there was preaching by itinerants from various denominations until June, 1858, when there was a regular church organization made by the Methodist Episcopal church under the supervision of Rev. Leard. Since then twenty-three Methodist preachers have had Viola on their circuits, and it is the largest church society in town.

The United Brethren organized in 1859, and in 1870 they had a large society, but now their numbers are few.

From 1865 to 1870 the Adventists had quite a number of adherents, but the emigration of several of their leading members rendered it impracticable for the remaining ones to maintain themselves as a society.

At the southeast corner of section 35 is a German Lutheran church worth \$2,000, and the society has twenty-six members.

The Methodists built a church in 1866, but it burned in February, 1870, so the Germans have the only church edifice, and the other religious denominations hold services in the town hall and the Dickerman schoolhouse. It is evident to every observer that the inhabitants of this town are more moral than religious. Sunday schools and meetings are well attended, and there are comparatively few actual sabbath-breakers.

#### SECRET SOCIETIES.

Rev. O. P. Crawford organized the first Good Templars Lodge with twenty-four charter members in 1867. It was successfully maintained until superseded by union temperance meetings, following which there was another lodge of I.O.G.T., that was dissolved in the fall of 1881. December 30, 1881, the third lodge of this order was organized with Geo. F. Howard, W.C., Walter Stanchfield, Sec., and



JOHN T. LA-DU.





Etta Robinson, W.V. It had twenty charter members, and now has forty-five members, with Seth Howard, W.C., Etta Robinson, W.V., and Walter Stanchfield, Sec.

The Patrons of Husbandry effected an organization May 18, 1872. There were forty-nine charter members, and the first officers were as follows: C. A. Butterfield, Master; Z. T. Nemsham, Overseer; Wm. Somerville, Lecturer; E. J. Gillet, Steward; L. E. Somerville, Asst. Steward; James Keller, Chaplain; S. D. Hillman, Sec.; R. G. Richardson, Treas.; Rodney Richardson, Gate Keeper; Mrs. C. A. Butterfield, Ceres; Miss J. L. Cunningham, Pemona; Mrs. Z. T. Nemsham, Flora; and Mrs. James Keller, Lady Asst. Steward.

For two or three years the grange was very popular, but grave differences of opinion led to a decline which was as rapid as its marvelous growth had been, and the last meeting was held January 11, 1879. The charter has not been surrendered, and its resurrection, by a call from Z. T. Nemsham, Sec., and R. G. Richardson, Master, is not impossible. Thus far there has been no organization of Freemasons or Odd-Fellows, though there are several members of both orders here. An anti-horse-thief society has been organized.

#### WAR RECORD.

At the opening of the late war Viola was in her infancy, but she furnished thirty volunteers and more than \$11,000 in money, besides caring for the widows and orphans at home.

At a meeting held Monday evening, August 22, 1864, it was voted to raise \$5,000, to be paid Saturday evening of the same week. The grain was all in shocks, the nearest market seventeen miles away and only one threshing machine to be used, but despite all difficulties, including a rain Tuesday night, the money was paid as voted.

Mr. R. A. Calvert is the only one of all those patriotic sons who has a home here today.

But fortunately their names have been learned from the lips and pens of their friends and neighbors, and shall be here inscribed. Capt. A. Harkins, A. V. Doty, David Williams, Wm. Swan, Samuel Calvert, R. A. Calvert, Jacob Wagoner, Gehial Sams, Albert Kitchel, James Kitchel, Willard Kitchel, Joshua Kitchel, Edward Kitchel, Wm. E. Golding, Lemuel Shaul, Eli Stellenberger, David Stellenberger, John Pendergrass, George Ketchum, Charles Watsen, Jefferson Cunningham, I. N. Rutledge, W. Shenton,

Richard Durr, Hiram Bell, Greenville Farrier, Mark Bear, Elihu Oaks, H. E. Ketchum, David Ketchum. These brave young men first endured the hardships of the frontier to secure homes and then leaped into the very jaws of death to rescue from the enemy the giver and protector of those homes—their country.

#### VILLAGE OF VIOLA.

September 30, 1878, a square plot of 40 acres of land with its N.W. corner 183 feet E. of the N.W. corner of the N.E. quarter of Sec. 21, in Viola Township, was regularly laid out into streets and lots and named Viola.

Its site is upon a lovely hillside at the head of a picturesque valley stretching away and broadening toward the north with the limpid White Water and the C. & N.W. railroad adown the center, while upon either side numerous flocks and herds graze upon the rich, juicy grasses. Elegant farm residences are nestled in its heart or stand upon its bluffy barriers as faithful guardians of natural beauty and loveliness!

The depot, grain elevator, blacksmith-shop, and lumber-yard are in the lower portion of the village, and the stores and dwellings crown the upper part. Simeon Ford, Esq., a highly respected citizen is the leading merchant and also postmaster. He established the first lumber-yard and opened the first store of importance in the township at this place October 7, 1878.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

The present winter (1882-3) is without an equal for severity and depth of snow for the last quarter of a century.

The first birth and first death occurred in the family of Capt. A. Harkins. His daughter, Alice L., was born May 20, 1856; and he lost a little boy August 10, 1855.

About one-half mile north of the center of section 27 a cemetery was platted in 1863. It is public property and lots are free, including choice of location, to anyone who desires the same for immediate burial of a friend, and they cannot be obtained upon any other consideration.

In 1860 Ludwig Friday, on section 25, kept for sale a few groceries, some calicoes, and a fair supply of liquor. He was the first merchant of the town, and the only saloonkeeper that has ever been tolerated.

A tornado crossed the farm of R. F. Cunningham, from east to west, July 3, 1863, and its fury was such as to uproot large oak-trees, and eighty rods of substantial board-fence was annihilated. In August, 1881, a whirlwind moving from southwest to northeast crossed the path of the former near Mr. Cunningham's buildings. Its course across the town from a point a little east of the south center-post of section 31 to a point near the east center-post of section 12, was straight, but narrow. It destroyed Michael Madden's barn, utterly demolished a house  $14 \times 18$  feet, one and one-half stories high, belonging to C. T. Shellman, untopped several grain stacks for R. F. Cunningham, raised Z. Swan's windmill, and damaged grain stacks for G. T. Thayer and Thomas Udell; no lives were lost. In June, 1877, the house of J. Quackenbush was turned quarter round and the frame to a barn  $30 \times 100$  feet, which the workmen were just putting the plates upon, was leveled to the ground. D. F. Mack was the owner. The above are the only hurricanes that have ever visited this town, and no destructive hail-storm has ever been known.

Only two houses have been burned. Early settlers remember that one "gridle-greaser" was used all about the neighborhood, and that during religious services in private residences, guileless but ill-tutored lads crawled upon the chamber-floor and dropped beans down upon the unprotected pates of devout worshipers. Cats were sold and shoats peddled. During the winter of 1856-7 spelling-schools were held from house to house, and in 1860 a debating society was organized; so it is fair to infer that the pioneers improved every opportunity for social and intellectual improvement. In the fall of 1874 a town hall,  $30 \times 45$  feet, with 16-foot posts, was erected a half a mile east of the center of the township. It may be used for all purposes that such buildings are usually, and the rental is so low that societies of every kind hold meetings there in preference to building for themselves. With one exception this is the most commodious structure of the kind in the county, in the rural districts. The first postoffice was established, with N. I. Wetmore postmaster, on section 15, in the autumn of 1861. The creamery before alluded to was built in the spring of 1881, and enlarged in 1882, so it has a capacity of 500 pounds per day, with steam power. Its erection gave a new impetus to stock raising, and its management has been quite satisfactory to the farmers.

The northwest and southeast corners of the town are settled with



Germans—about thirty-five voters in all, and they are thrifty farmers. The southwest corner is occupied by about a dozen families of Irish, who have as desirable farms for grain raising as can be found in Minnesota. The remainder of the population is made up mostly of immigrants from the eastern and middle states. Population in 1880 was 920. Valuation of property in 1859, \$31,164; in 1860, \$47,124, and in 1882, \$434,720, of which \$82,350 is on personal property, and in this she leads all her sisters in the county, and is fourth in total valuation. Prior to the commencement of the last decade the husbandmen were engaged almost exclusively in raising wheat. Reapers, necessitating the employment of many men, were in general use, and every harvest, for nearly three months, the country was completely overrun with raftsmen, the roughest and most vulgar class of men known to civilization. Their stories excited the curiosity and contaminated the morals of the too credulous and unsophisticated farmer-boys, and counteracted in a measure the good influence of both parents and teachers. But of late years the introduction of self-binders and a change from extensive grain cultivation to the raising of live-stock, have eradicated this evil. Sundays, instead of playing cards in the haymow, young men are at church, and during the winter the schoolroom is more attractive and fascinating than the logging-camps of the pineries. Within twelve years last past, twenty-five of the youth have become lawyers, doctors, or school-teachers; and in no instance has one been debauched by city life, which is a matter of congratulation to their parents, for "Just as the twig is bent the tree's inclined."

There are three feed-mills; the most important being a steam-power, with a capacity of nearly 500 bushels per day, owned by Messrs. O. T. and Enoch Dickerman, and situated near the Dickerman schoolhouse. In state and national politics the town is republican by about thirty majority; but, in town and county elections, party lines are so far disregarded as to admit the election of the most worthy nominees. In conclusion: There is not much clan-nishness; the people are moral, social, frugal, peaceable, temperate, industrious, hospitable and progressive. Their homes are rendered most attractive by art, music and literature. Lovable, loving and obedient children bless the fireside, and about it all is quiet and contentment.

## CHAPTER XXI.

### QUINCY, DOVER, ELMIRA AND EYOTA TOWNSHIPS.

#### QUINCY.

THE first building erected in Quincy was in the spring of 1854. Mason and Irving Wetmore and D. Woodard built a sawmill on the Whitewater, which was quite a convenience to the incoming settlers. T. T. and A. J. Olds were among the earliest settlers, establishing their claims in 1855.

The Smith family came the same year, locating on secs. 7, 17 and 18. Samuel Evans came in 1856, locating on the N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 6. Nicholas W. Murphy came in June of the same year, locating on the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 6. Mason and Henry Hatfield came in the fall of 1855, locating on section 34. Harvey F. Bush came in the winter of 1855, locating on section 32.

Michael Kepner came in 1856, locating on the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 17. Samuel Tenny came in the same year, locating on section 5. The Stephenson family came in 1855, locating on section 36. Jairus Richards came in 1855, locating on section 34. Gideon Lewis located on the N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 26 in 1856.

The township was organized May 11, 1858, at the residence of T. T. Olds. Following are the names of the first officers elected:

T. T. Olds, J. L. Williams, H. Hatfield, supervisors; Jotham Holland, town clerk; Samuel Loy, assessor; J. S. Olds, collector; Robert Smith, overseer of the poor; J. S. Olds, Harvey Wood, constables; G. Lewis, D. B. Alvord, justices.

The first birth in the township was in the fall of 1855, being a son of Mr. Woodard. The first religious services were held at the residence of Mr. Kepner.

The first church erected was the German Evangelical. The Congregational church society was organized in May, 1863, by the Rev. Beekman, of St. Charles, who acted as pastor until 1866. The names of the pastors who followed him successively are N. H. Peirce, J. E. Burbank, Charles Duren, D. Rindel, and R. W. Drake. The organization was kept up and services held until 1878, when on account of depleted membership they disbanded.

At the outbreak of the rebellion the township of Quincy did her part toward its suppression. Sixty of her sons went out in response to the long roll, and some of them never returned.

#### DOVER.

The broad domain of Minnesota did not furnish a more inviting spot to the eye of the early pioneer than the territory now embraced within the boundary lines of Dover. The township is essentially a prairie one, though an occasional thicket is found, and there is some timber along the south branch of the White Water, which winds through the town from east to west. The marshes and springs are few.

The first permanent settler in Dover was Leonard Knapp, who came in May, 1854, locating on the S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 26. Judge Thompson came later in the same year, and located on the S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 14. Joseph Drake also came in 1854, locating on the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 10. Robert Robertson and John Clarkson came in the fall of the same year, locating on section 36. W. J. Rank came in 1855, locating on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 21. R. L. Cotterell came in 1856, locating on the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 3. Elmer L. Fowler came in 1855. Uriah Carpenter came in 1856, locating on section 13. John R. Henry came in 1857, locating on section 28. Jerome C. Ketchum came in the spring of 1855, locating on the N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 5.

The Stevenson family came in 1855, locating in the northeastern part of Dover and southeastern part of Quincy. A. P. Stearns came in 1857, locating on section 24. Francis Monty located on section 24 in 1856, purchasing the claim formerly owned by Mr. Waller.

Emery H. Dewey came in the spring of 1856, locating on the S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 19. John Fraser in 1855, locating on section 23.

The Denton family came in 1857, locating on section 24. Isaac M. Childs in 1856, locating on section 12. Chester Phelps, M. Whitmore, John Lasher, George Kendall, G. C. Sheeks, G. T. Wilsey, Simpson Smith, Messrs. Niles, Bolt and Purdy, G. A. Kimber, Hiram Cross, William Merry, George Bortol, Simeon Harding and Elanson Richards also number among the pioneers of the township.

The first religious service held in the town was at the residence of G. A. Kimber.

The first birth was Rodolphus, son of G. A. Kimber, which occurred October 17, 1855.

The first marriage occurred in 1855, the contracting parties being Mr. Smith and Miss Waller, Judge Thompson performing the ceremony.

The only tragedy to darken the history of the township occurred in 1868, about two miles west of St. Charles. On a dark night in October, Frederic Ableitner was suddenly aroused from his slumbers by the sound of voices and a loud rap at his cabin door. On inquiring who it was, he was informed that it was strangers who desired him to come out and direct them to St. Charles. Unsuspectingly he stepped out into the darkness, whereupon one of the ruffians struck him over the head with a blunt instrument, a pistol shot quickly followed, a gurgling cry was heard, and in a few moments the body of Frederic Ableitner lay stark and cold in death. The murderers then attempted to enter the house, but met with a stout resistance on the part of Mrs. Ableitner, and becoming alarmed they beat a retreat.

On the following day, excitement ran high in the community. Suspicion fastened itself upon the person of one Staley, and accordingly he was arrested and brought before Justice Stevenson, who, deeming the evidence produced insufficient, discharged him. The citizens of St. Charles and vicinity being dissatisfied with his decision, detectives were by them employed to "work up" the case. A chain of evidence was soon woven which fixed the guilt upon Staley and John Whitman, who were arrested in the pineries, brought to Olmsted county, tried and sentenced to the penitentiary for life.

Owing to the destruction of records, the writer found it impossible to ascertain the exact date of the township organization. The names of the present town officers are as follows: Supervisors, Julius Busian, chairman, E. H. Dewey and John Stevenson; town clerk, M. V. Silsbee; treasurer, M. J. Merrick; assessor, J. Guderian; justices, T. Stevenson, M. V. Silsbee; constables, F. F. Keller, Adam Brown.

The village of Dover Center is located near the center of the township. It was through the efforts of Mr. Fairfield Smith that a side track and station were located here.

Dyar & Ingam are carrying on an extensive grain business, and are proprietors of a large elevator and warehouse standing north of the track.

There are three general merchandise stores in the village, a drug store, one grocery, one hardware, one machine store, two hotels and a blacksmith-shop.



The large and commodious school building standing on an elevation in the southwestern part of the village is an ornament, and speaks well for the progressive intelligence of the citizens. It was erected in 1876.

The Methodist Episcopal church is the only religious organization in the village. It was once a part of the St. Charles circuit, but later was attached to the Eyota circuit remaining so until 1876-7. The present membership numbers ninety. The first pastor stationed with them was Rev. M. O. McNiff, next came L. Hall who was succeeded by Mr. Crist, Rev. O. Williams comes next on the list, he being succeeded by Rev. G. W. Way.

There is only one monetary institution in the whole of this township, and that is the private banking house of Dyar & Ingham, established in 1877. The average amount of deposits in this institution is \$25,000.

To speak of the hardships, trials and difficulties encountered by the early settlers of Dover would simply be a repetition of what will be found in preceding pages. That they toiled and suffered in common with the brave army of pioneers who have dotted the broad bosom of Minnesota with their homes, we all know. Let us love and honor those yet living, and strew with garlands green the graves of those passed away.

#### ELMIRA.

This town was organized at a general election held at school house No. 1, May 11, 1858. J. R. Freeman was chosen chairman of the meeting. Milo White, Fred A. Coffin and C. H. Stearns were elected judges of election; H. E. Loomis, moderator for the day; R. Ketcham, secretary.

Milo White was elected chairman of the board of supervisors, and received the whole number of votes cast, being 31.

E. Prindle and H. C. Potter were elected associate supervisors; R. G. Ketcham, clerk; William Posten, assessor; A. D. Putnam, collector; J. R. Freeman and R. B. Kellam, constables; C. H. Stearns and S. Cole, justices of the peace. The present (1883) officers of the town are: A. V. Jennings, chairman of the board of supervisors; W. Laird and D. Morairty, associate supervisors, and Mr. Underlake, town clerk.

In April, 1863, during the rebellion, the town voted a bounty of \$50 to every volunteer who would offer his services in defense of his country; and at a special meeting of the town board of supervisors,

in February, 1864, \$2,000 was voted to be used as bounty money; and again on January 23, 1865, the town required eight more soldiers to fill up its quota, in answer to the call of President Lincoln for 300,000 more, and to obtain these men \$2,500 was voted to be paid as bounty to such as would volunteer. Thus did Elmira do her share in the great fight for the union.

Elmira is known on the United States survey maps as T. 105 N., R. 11 W. It forms the southeast corner of Olmsted county, having Fillmore county on the south and Winona county on the east; the towns of Dover and Orion on the north and west respectively. The county is somewhat bluffly in places, and is well timbered. It is drained by the north branch of the Root river. There are no marshes of any extent in this township.

The first settlements were made in 1854. Messrs. Twiford, Willis, Blodget, Monday, Coffin, A. V. Jennings, Huntley, J. Trumbull, E. Prindle, Allan A. Cady, all came in 1854. There were a few settlers on the Root river south of Elmira in 1853, and where now stands the village of Chatfield.

Mr. McClellan built a small log house in 1853, and in 1854 a frame one in which he opened a store, standing in section 31, Elmira. He died in 1855. This James McClellan was the first settler, the first to build a log and a frame house, the first to start a store and the first to die in Elmira.

The first birth was that of Pembroke Tatro, son of Joseph Tatro, born in 1855.

The first marriage was that of Chester Woodard and Miss Redfield.

Messrs. Twiford and Willis built a sawmill in section 31, on Mill creek, which they dammed, and used the water as a motive power for the mill. They also, in company with Mr. Gear, started the village of Chatfield, and built a log hotel there in 1854. A small part of this village is in section 31 of Elmira, most of it being in Fillmore county. It is a lively, enterprising village and bids fair in the near future to become quite a city.

There are two churches in Elmira, the Methodist Episcopal and the United Brethren in Christ. The former in section 31, and the latter in section 6. M. L. Tibbits is the presiding elder. Dr. A. H. Trow was the first minister of the gospel in this township.

On June 23, 1880, a very mysterious murder was committed in this town; that of Tarrence Desmond. Mr. Desmond was born

in Ireland and settled in Elmira in 1857. On the day above mentioned he had gone to a spring for a drink of water, close to the field in which he was working. On walking from the spring he was assaulted from behind with a club, the first blow of which fractured his skull and knocked him down. The blows were repeated until his head was almost a jelly, then his throat was cut to complete the business. Mr. Cady, a neighbor, found him thus on the following day, and at once gave the alarm. There was not sufficient evidence against anyone to commit. The murderer evidently watched for his opportunity, as a place in the bushes close to the spring was discovered where someone had been kneeling for some time. Suspicion pointed strongly to his brother-in-law, who had repeatedly made threats to take his life, also to his hired help, but they could neither of them be proven guilty. Mr. Desmond left a wife and five small children to mourn his loss.

This town was visited by a fearful windstorm, accompanied with rain, on the 10th of June, 1880. Between eight and nine o'clock in the morning a black cloud was observed rapidly approaching from the west. It soon covered the entire heavens, and it became so dark that candles had to be lighted in the houses. The rain came down in torrents, and the thunder and lightning was so great as to cause the stoutest heart to quake; the wind caused great damage to crops and also to buildings. Mr. Alonzo Foster had a very fine stone barn demolished and two valuable horses killed, and many others lost their barns, granaries, etc. The storm was not quite a mile wide and lasted about twenty minutes. This is the only storm of any force that has ever visited the township.

#### EYOTA.

In the spring of 1853 Benjamin Bear made a claim on the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 20, being the first settler in the township. In May, 1854, he brought his family from Iowa.

In April, 1854, William Potter took a claim on section 33, and there located. In the same month H. G. Freeman made claim on N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 21.

The Campion, Tottingham and other families came the same spring and located in different parts of the township.

The first births in the township were in the families of H. G. Freeman and William Potter, both of which occurred November 6, 1854. The first death was Hiram Smith, in the same year, who

was buried in the cemetery on section 21. The contracting parties in the first wedding in the township were Anson Boyer and Miss Smith.

The first frame house was built by Thomas Harris. The first road was laid out in 1856, by William Potter and P. Patridge, which extended from Pleasant Grove north through the township.

The first postoffice was established on section 16, Mr. Whipple being the postmaster. The first school was taught in a log house on section 21, in the winter of 1856-7, Charles Cutler being the first teacher to wield the hickory.

The first hotel was kept by A. Smith, on section 16. Mr. F. Magee opened another in 1856.

The first schoolhouse was erected in 1858, on section 21.

The town was first organized under the name of Springfield, which was changed and Eyota substituted in 1859.

About two-thirds of the town is prairie and the balance timber. In point of agricultural wealth it ranks with any in the county. Stock raising is now the principal industry.

The first town meeting was held at the residence of A. Smith, in 1858, at which the following-named officers were elected: supervisors, Richard Hull, Benjamin Bear, Freeman Matteson; town clerk, B. Cutler; assessor, A. J. Doty; justices, O. P. Whitcomb, J. K. Randell; collector, J. H. Bliss; overseer of the poor, Stickney Bush; constables, Nathan M. Smith, James L. Hodges.

#### EYOTA VILLAGE.

The village of Eyota was surveyed and laid out in 1875, including all of section 14, and in 1879, the south half of section 11 was added.

The first village election was held March 9, 1875, at which the following-named officers were elected: council, George G. Barto, O. H. Jackson, E. D. Dyer; Milo Matteson and Charles Ellsbury having each received 55 votes. Another election was called for March 29, at which election Milo Matteson was chosen as the fourth member of the council; C. S. Andrews was elected recorder; C. P. Russell, treasurer; S. E. Keeler, justice; H. B. Herrick, constable; Edwin Dunn, assessor. At that time the village polled 108 votes.

The present officers of the village are as follows: council, C. S. Andrews, W. E. Smith, C. W. Barto, P. C. Maroney; recorder, W. J. Christie; treasurer, O. S. Armstrong; assessor, C. W. Cresap; constable, John J. Lovelace.



The first hotel in the village was kept by G. T. Barto, the first store by Milo White, the first blacksmith-shop by O. H. Jackson ; the first grain elevator was owned by the Winona & St. Peter railroad, and was conducted by O. S. Armstrong.

#### CHURCHES.

The Methodist Episcopal church was built in the village of Eyota in 1876. The regular minister at the time of the building of the church was the Rev. J. Barnard. At that time there were about twenty-five members. The trustees were M. Wright, E. A. Doty, Wm. Eckles, E. D. Dyar, S. C. Andrews, H. Stanchfield and A. G. Robinson. The present minister is the Rev. W. H. Matson ; the present membership is thirty, and the regular attendance of scholars at Sunday school is sixty.

The Lutheran church was organized in 1857, and held meetings in a log schoolhouse until about 1860, when a church was built on the northwest corner of section 34. The cost of this edifice was about \$1,000. The Rev. Mr. Mallison was the first minister that held religious services there. The first officers of the church were Geo. Plank, John Plank, Amos Plank, Jas. Eckels and Reuben Alen. The attendance at the Sunday school is about thirty, and the regular attendance at the church, thirty-five. Wm. Busjan, Jos. Plank and Amos Plank are the present officers.

The Presbyterian church was erected in 1868. The building committee were Messrs. E. Dunn, J. W. Campbell and Peter Dempster. At the time of organization of the church society its membership was nine. The cost of the church was \$2,789.19. The Presbyterians raised \$1,000 among themselves, and the balance was raised by voluntary subscription of the people. This church was used by all denominations until 1873, when the United Brethren church bought the Presbyterians' interest, and it has been a United Brethren church ever since. The first United Brethren minister was Rev. M. L. Tibbets ; the first officers were Joseph Singleton, William Bear and T. Eckles. The present officers are Wesley Randell, Joseph Singleton and Edwin Dunn. The present pastor is Rev. M. H. Sly. There are now about sixty members of the church, and there are ninety regular attendants at the Sunday school connected therewith.

## LODGES.

A masonic lodge (No. 61) was organized here on December 17, 1866. The lodge first held its meetings in the hall over Needham & Wheeler's store. The officers at that time were L. W. Needham, master; B. Birge, senior warden; C. D. Houghton, junior warden; J. S. Niles, senior deacon; George Eckles, junior deacon; J. N. Brush, treasurer; O. S. Armstrong, secretary. The officers at the present time are C. S. Andrews, master; Edwin Dunn, senior warden; Wm. Reynolds, junior warden; W. J. Christie, senior deacon; Jake Copley, junior deacon; J. T. Price, treasurer; O. S. Armstrong, secretary. The communications of the lodge are now held in the hall over C. W. Barto's drug-store, which makes a very fine lodge-room. The room is both appropriately and handsomely decorated and furnished. The present membership numbers one hundred. The lodge is in a flourishing condition in every respect.

Eyota Lodge, No. 47, I.O.O.F., was instituted October 22, 1874. The lodge was organized in the Masonic Hall, and the following-named gentlemen were the first officers elected: O. E. Lawson, N.G.; W. P. Smith, V.G.; J. D. Heademan, secretary; J. H. Carroll, treasurer. Charter members: O. E. Lawson, J. D. Heademan, Orin Carrier, Ezra Graves, H. Porter. The lodge has now a membership of fifty. The officers at the present time are as follows: Nels. Pearson, N.G.; William Sherman, V.G.; George Nichold, secretary; William Reynolds, treasurer. The condition of the lodge is satisfactory in every respect. The meetings are held every week in the hall over Blair Bros' store.

The Highland Lodge of Good Templars was organized November 25, 1882, with the following-named as officers: Walter Dixon, W.C.T.; Ella Weston, W.V.T.; W. H. Matson, W.Chap.; A. C. Justice, W.Sec.; Kate Emery, W.A.S.; Malcom Wright, W. F.S.; Mrs. W. Dixon, W.Treas.; A. B. Clark, W.M.; Mrs. Ettie Bear, W.D.M.; Mand Clark, W.I.G.; Frank James, W.O.G.; Ina Underwood, W.L.H.S.; Alice James, W.R.H.S.; William W. Lovelace, P.W.C.T. The number of the charter members is fifty-one, while the present lodge membership is sixty-five. The lodge is in a good condition, and is doing much effectual work.

There is a very fine school-building in the village of Eyota, which was erected in 1876, at a cost of \$8,500. The first teachers in the new building were E. A. Holmes, Miss Nettie Martin, Miss Hoagg.

The Eyota Baptist church was organized May 4, 1861, with the following members : Merritt House, Maria House, Robert Elliott, Elijah S. Dugan, Calista L. Dugan, Lucy House, George M. House, A. J. House, Merritt House, Jr.; thirty-six different members ; lost by death, removals, etc., nineteen ; present membership, seventeen.

## CHAPTER XXII.

### ORION, PLEASANT GROVE AND SALEM TOWNSHIPS.

#### ORION.

THIS is one of the southern tier of towns in Olmsted county. It is bounded on the east by Elmira, on the north by Eyota, on the west by Pleasant Grove, and on the south by Fillmore county. About one-third of the town is covered with magnificent forest trees, affording an abundance of timber for that and surrounding towns. The rest of the town is light timber and prairie. The soil is a dark loam with a subsoil of clay. The Root river enters the town on section 18, running a southeasterly direction through the town and into Fillmore county from section 36. Mill creek runs through the eastern part of the town and empties into Root river at Chatfield. The surface of the town is rather broken and rolling. There are a number of small valleys running through the town. Orion affords a better supply of timber than any other town in the county. It is also well supplied with water and plenty of good building-stone. The town was organized in 1858.

The first town meeting was held May 11, 1858, at the school-house in Cummingsville. Thomas Harris was chosen moderator of the meeting, and Richard S. Russell, T. Harris, B. F. McVey and L. B. Bliss, judges of election. The following gentlemen were elected to office : L. B. Bliss, chairman supervisors ; Stephen J. Russell, supervisor ; Seth A. Cole, supervisor ; John T. Hancock, town clerk ; Henry Goodman, collector ; F. H. Cummings, overseer of the poor ; Thomas Harris and F. B. Burk, justices ; Henry Goodman and M. L. Scarbrough, constables. The present officers of the town are C. E. Burk, chairman supervisors ; L. Denny,

supervisor ; John Campion, supervisor ; J. T. Hancock, town clerk ; W. C. Shelton, collector ; C. E. Burk, assessor ; J. T. Hancock, justice ; F. H. Cummings and Henry A. Robinson, constables.

The first settlement was made in the spring of 1854, by George M. Gere, on section 25, James Edwards on section 25, John Schermerhorn on section 23, C. J. Robinson on sections 34 and 35; March, 1854, Joseph Rose on section 27 ; May 6, 1854, Joel Ballard and David Hazelton. The first house was built by James Edwards and the second by John Schermerhorn.

The first road was laid out July 3, 1858, starting at the southeast corner of the town and running east on the county line ; the second road starting between sections 2 and 3, running south. In the summer of 1855 F. H. Cummings built a sawmill on section 28, on Root River.

The same year Thomas Harris erected a steam sawmill and put it in operation. Neither of the mills was a very profitable investment, and they were operated only a short time. The Orion flouring-mill was built in 1866 by Christopher Ecker, who ran it till 1874 ; he then sold to William Hueston, who ran the mill till 1879, when it burned down, but not being discouraged he rebuilt the same year. He now has a very nice mill with three run of stone. It is located on section 18, on Root river, and is run by water-power. The first cemetery is on the N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 10.

The first birth among the white people of the town of Orion was that of Edward Blodget, son of F. H. Blodget, born June, 1854. The first death was John Schermerhorn, who died October 18, 1855. The first marriage that took place in Orion was that of O. H. Chapman and Miss Eliza Schermerhorn, November 12, 1854.

The first school was opened in 1856, and was taught by Andrew Beardsley in a dwelling-house of Malon Clayton's, on section 10. There were about eighteen scholars. The first schoolhouse in the town was built in 1856, on section 28, district No. 17. The first teacher in the schoolhouse was Miss Deming. The first doctor that practiced in Orion was Dr. Twitchel, of Chatfield.

The first religious service in the town was held at the house of Stephen Case in the fall of 1855, the sermon being delivered by Rev. George Stevenson, of the Methodist persuasion.

A tornado swept through the town in May, 1854, but there were but few settlers at that time. It swept the timber and everything in its course. In 1854 a fire started near Root river, and, running over



the prairie to the White Water, burned about forty tons of hay belonging to William Potter, and did considerable other damage.

#### PLEASANT GROVE.

For fertility of soil this township ranks with any in Olmsted county, and consequently was settled as early.

The first actual settler was Mr. Gough, who located his claim in 1853. In 1854 the claim was purchased by the Patridge brothers. Y. P. Burgan came in 1854 and located on the N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 29. Joseph L. Parks came in the same year, locating on the S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 22. Jesse Bagley also came in 1854.

In 1855 the Tait-Flathers families came. O. H. Page also came in that year, locating on the N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 28. David Overend also came in 1855, locating on the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 27.

In 1856 the Russell family settled on section 25.

M. Brittendoll, John Lambert, John and William Burch, Jacob Prentice, J. D. Bunce, Robert Overend, W. H. Mills, E. D. Barrows, Samuel Barrows and Frederic Libeck were also among the earliest settlers of the town.

The township was organized in 1858, the first officers elected being as follows: Supervisors, J. H. Hartenboner, chairman, E. H. Stuckman and F. L. Stevens; town clerk, W. H. Mills; assessor, H. G. McCaleb; justices of the peace, Samuel Barrows and I. W. Norton; collector, William Kennedy; constables, William Kennedy, J. S. Stevens; overseer of the poor, John Collins.

In 1854 a stage line was established by M. O. Walker from Dubuque to St. Paul, passing through the township, and a postoffice was established in the northern part, and the name of Pleasant Grove conferred upon it. Philo S. Curtis was appointed post master.

The village was platted by Philo S. Curtis, Dudley Taylor and Samuel Barrows, William H. Mills being the surveyor. Philo S. Curtis was succeeded in the postmastership by Samuel Barrows, who was followed by William H. Mills. Judge R. D. Hathaway was next appointed, and is the present incumbent. In 1855 Mr. Curtis opened the first hotel, which, owing to the large amount of travel over the new stage road, was well patronized.

The only mill in the township is located on Root river, and was built by Mathew Fugle in 1871. Its capacity is twenty-five bar-

rels of flour per day. The structure is two stories and a half high, without including basement, 30×40 feet in size, and cost twelve thousand dollars.

#### ORGANIZATION.

Among the first settlers in Pleasant Grove, Olmsted county, Minnesota, was David Overend. He came to the county in May, 1850, from Bedford, Cuyahoga county, Ohio.

Having learned the gospel as set forth by Alexander Campbell and Walter Scott while in Ohio, and finding no one in the new settlement who believed or taught the scriptures as he had learned them, he set about immediately to ascertain if there were any in the county with whom he could associate in church relationship on the ground of the bible alone as a rule of faith and practice, untrammelled by any human creed. The first disciple he met was Peter Radabaugh, and he walked sixteen miles to the vicinity of Eyota to visit him.

Not many months elapsed before other disciples located in the county, and soon an organization was effected. The church was organized in June, 1856, with the following persons as charter members: David Overend, John Collins, Peter Radabaugh, Sr., and wife, John Radabaugh and wife, Calander Radabaugh and wife, Andrew Lighter and wife, Jane Bonham, Mrs. Daugherty and Peter Radabaugh, Jr.—thirteen in all. Peter Radabaugh, Sr., was appointed elder and John Collins deacon. During this same year Elder E. T. Grant, of Brownsville, Minnesota, was called to hold a protracted meeting for the infant church. He lived over seventy-five miles away, and David Overend undertook to walk that distance to secure his services. He came in the month of September and preached for a few weeks, which resulted in the addition of three to the membership.

He came again the next year and held a protracted meeting, which resulted in thirteen additions. For four or five years he continued to visit the congregation, preaching for them only a few days or weeks at a time. A few years after the organization of the church, upon the death of Peter Radabaugh, John Collins was constituted elder of the congregation and Volney Sanborn was associated with him in the eldership. James Pace and Noble Cile were then appointed deacons. In the year 1861, upon the removal of Volney Sanborn, James Pace and Noble Cile to the western part of

the state, David Overend was elected elder and Joseph L. and Jonathan D. Parks deacons.

D. Overend has held the position of overseer from that date till the present writing, and has also preached very acceptably for the congregation during many of these years, nearly the whole burden and care of the church resting upon him. Joseph L. Parks occupied the position of deacon until the time of his death, November 19, 1882, honored and revered by all. The present deacons are J. D. Parks and John Yates.

During the years 1862 and 1863 the church erected its present house of worship. It is a brick structure 32×50 feet in dimensions, and stands in the village of Pleasant Grove. The cost of the building at that time was over \$3,000. A. P. Frost served the church as pastor acceptably for three years.

Their present pastor is A. W. Dean, who came to Pleasant Grove from Elyria, Ohio, and has labored for the church since January 1, 1882. The congregation has bought property in the village and fitted it up for a parsonage. The present membership is fifty.

The first Methodist services were held in Y. P. Burgen's house in the summer or fall of 1854; Benjamin Crist, pastor. The work belonged to the Wisconsin conference. Y. P. Burgen and wife were the first members. Very soon P. Bowers, Jacob Ginther, N. Howland, father and mother Ruck, Wm. Burgen and wife, Wm. Peck and Jane his wife, Eliza Higley, Jonathan Rucker and wife, Wm. Marr and wife, also united.

In 1856 the Minnesota conference was formed and Pleasant Grove was united with Spring Valley circuit. Elijah Fate and C. Kellogg, preachers.

1857 Pleasant Grove circuit was formed, and S. Spates was appointed pastor. Mr. Spates had been Indian missionary at Sandy Lake for nearly twenty years. The pastors have been, since 1858, Nahum Tamter, Boyd Phelps, S. N. Phelps, J. G. Teter, J. P. Quigley, B. Blain, J. R. Creighton, C. F. Kingsland, H. G. Bilbie, H. N. Munger, W. F. Stockdill, C. F. Garvin, Jos. Hanna, Jos. Hall, and since 1882 Noah Lathrop.

The Seventh Day Adventist church was organized in 1862 by Elder John Bostwick. H. F. Laisher was chosen elder and Thomas McDonald deacon and clerk.

The covenant is as follows: We, the undersigned, hereby associate ourselves together as a church, taking the name Seventh Day

Adventist and covenanting to keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

St. Bridget's church was organized in 1859 by Father Prendergast. The church building was erected in the same year. It is a large stone structure, 44×80 feet in size, and is one of the finest in the county. It has a seating capacity of 600. The parsonage was erected in 1881, and although not completed has entailed a cost of twenty-three hundred dollars.

The names of the pastors following Father Prendergast successively are as follows: Father Morris, Thomas O'Gorman, Father Bruton and Father Stack, who now has the church in charge, and who is the first resident priest.

The present trustees are Edward Cohran, P. H. Griffin, Edward Mayo, James St. George and A. Campion.

The Paulist Temperance Society, in connection with the church, is composed of fifty members, and meets every month in a neat frame building opposite the church. The building is 26×50 feet in size, and cost about one thousand dollars.

Masonic Lodge, No. 22, Pleasant Grove, was organized December 16, 1856, by A. S. Ferris, grand master of Minnesota.

The charter was granted in 1858, and permanent officers elected as follows: George P. Budlong, W.M.; George W. Green, S.W.; Jacob Ginter, J.W.; John Rumsey, treasurer; H. B. French, secretary; J. A. Lewis, S.D.; J. H. Tedman, J.D.; C. E. Kellogg, tyler; H. H. Mitchell and J. H. Main, stewards.

On March 9, 1858, these officers were installed by Volney Baily, D.G.N., J. N. McClane, D.G.S.W., and Mr. Kelly, D.G.J.W. The present membership of this lodge is fifty-nine.

The present officers are as follows: O. H. Page, W.M.; L. D. Rosier, S.W.; G. F. Allen, J.W.; C. W. Russell, treasurer; R. D. Hathaway, secretary; James Edmonson, S.D.; Murray Bagley, J.D.; J. H. Tedman, chaplain; Lewis Roberts, tyler; George Logan, S.S.; Warren Johnson, J.S.

The building and lot owned by the lodge cost about sixteen hundred dollars.

The soil in the township is excellent, producing good crops of wheat, rye, corn, oats and barley. Root river winds through the southern portion of the township, and is skirted by a heavy growth of timber. Great bluffs, green with moss of a century's growth, tower skyward, forming a continuous wall along the banks of the



rippling stream. While all around them civilization has wrought great changes, they retain all of their primitive grandeur, and stand today as grim, as weird as a hundred years ago.

The road from Marion to Pleasant Grove passes over a place called the "hog back." On reaching this point the scene is very picturesque. On one hand is a deep ravine, while on the other is a perpendicular wall. Looking over from the stage the silvery sheen of the river is visible, nearly a hundred feet below, and to the west a scene meets the eye of the beholder which is interesting and grand. As you look down the river winding among the crags and jutting rocks you half expect to see the canoe of the swarthy savage darting up and down, or to see his nodding plume and painted face appear from behind one of the sturdy pines that adorn its shores and seem to sing a solemn dirge over the fast-fading footprints of that departed race.

#### SALEM.

Salem is situated in the western tier of the towns of Olmsted county. It is bounded on the north by Kalmar, on the east by Rochester, on the south by Rock Dell, and on the west by Dodge county. It is centered by the meridian town line 106 north and range 15 west, and contains about 23,002 acres, with a population of between eight and nine hundred. The town is well drained and watered by the Zumbro and Cascade rivers, every section being crossed by their feeders, with the exception of 30, 35, 36 and 26. The banks of these rivers are very low and in some places the adjoining land is marshy. The only prairie portion is at the north, where the streams are most abundant, the rest being rolling, and in many places heavily timbered with oak-trees, particularly so in sections 20, 21, 29, 28, 34 and 35.

Cottonwood, silver and Lombardy poplar are also met with in groves, principally as "windbreaks" around dwelling-houses. These "windbreaks," and the rolling land add diversity to the natural scenery, making it very pleasing to the eye. The farmers of this town are very prosperous, and this is particularly noticeable among the Scandinavians, who form four-fifths of the population, the rest being Irish and a few Americans. Barley, oats and corn are the grains principally grown, with little more wheat than is sufficient for home purposes. Cattle raising and dairy farming are becoming more popular every year, owing to the decrease in the

yield of grain per acre, which is here attributed to climatic changes and not to the failing of the soil.

Joseph B. Dearborn was the first American to settle in the town of Salem, where he pre-empted a claim of 160 acres in section 5, Salem, and 32 Kalmar, in the year 1854. Asa Hurd took a claim adjoining, the same year (1854), and built the first log-house on the town line road between Kalmar and Salem. Ole C. Wegger, T. B. and Christopher Isaacson (brothers), Edward Alvord, and Aron Anderson, all came during the summer of 1854. Julia, daughter of Edward A. and Mary (Oleson) Holtan, has the honor of being the first child born in this town, her birth occurring the same year (1854) that her parents settled here.

In 1855-6 settlers came in a rush, and almost all available land was pre-empted. What is now known as the Rochester road was made during the year 1856, and the same year an effort was made to start a village at Salem Corners, section 15, where the same year Cyrus Holt opened a general country store, and was in 1857 appointed postmaster. This store, not meeting with much support, was soon closed and in 1860 the postoffice was closed also, since which time the town has been without either store or postoffice.

Squire Wilkins (the name by which he is familiarly known) was the first mail-carrier, having for five years carried the mail from Rochester to Salem Corners, and L. L. McCoy was the last. Zebina Henderson built the first frame house in the town, at Salem Corners, which is still standing, but unoccupied.

The first ministers of the gospel were the Rev. David L. King and Elder Forrest, who preached in Lorenzo McCoy's shanty, near Salem Corners, in 1856, and the first doctor was Dr. Younglove, now (1883) of Rochester. The first death was Ella, the infant daughter of Darius and Harriet (McKinstry) Wilkins, which occurred September 20, 1857.

The first marriages were Miss Frances Hurd to Columbus Irish, in February, and Miss Emma Hurd to Hiram Fairbanks, in October of 1857, the ceremony being performed by Squire Wilkins, still living (1883) at the corners. Miss Frances and Miss Emma are the daughters of Mr. H. G. Hurd.

Previous to 1858, during territorial times, the town of Salem formed a part of the town of Rochester, and in January, 1857, at an election held in the village of Rochester, Darius Wilkins was elected justice of the peace, being the first justice elected in what is now the

town of Salem. The first election was held at the schoolhouse in Salem village in 1858, when the town was organized by the election of the following officers: Zebina Henderson, chairman of the board of supervisors, received 84 votes, being the whole number cast; William Waite, Jr., and Ole S. Sattre, being associate supervisors; Samuel H. Nichols, town clerk; A. P. Everest, assessor; Hubbard G. Hurd, collector; Lorenzo McCoy, overseer of the poor; Hubbard G. Hurd, constable; Darius Wilkins and Cyrus Holt, justices of the peace; William Waite, Jr., moderator.

In 1862 the town of Salem, to avoid a draft for soldiers, gave from \$50 to \$100 to such men as would volunteer their services, and on February 8, 1864, the town voted a further appropriation of \$3,000 for the same purpose. The whole amount given by the town for volunteer purposes during the war was \$15,399. Such a large sum of money taken from so small a town was grievously felt by the poorer farmers, but they managed by economy to pay off in two years the bonds they had used to raise this amount.

This town has been remarkably fortunate, never having been visited by any windstorms or having a tragedy of any kind committed.

The only accident which might have resulted seriously was the falling of the upper floor in the town hall. This hall was built by contract in 1865. At the first town meeting held on this floor it gave way, precipitating the occupants to the floor below.

This hall is used as a school, a church, for town meetings, and as a dance hall. This hall stands in section 15, close to Salem Corners, which makes it central and convenient to all who live in the town.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

### BIOGRAPHICAL.

#### THE PIONEERS OF OLMSTED COUNTY.

[In the following chapters we have grouped together the personal sketches of quite a number of the pioneer citizens, early settlers and other important persons whose names, though many of them appearing in the preceding pages, deserve more prominence than such a passing notice has given them.]

WILLIAM POTTER was born in the State of Pennsylvania in 1827, where he lived for the space of twenty years, following from early youth the dual occupations of farming and lumbering. In the month of April, 1854, he came to Minnesota and located where his present homestead and farm is now situated, on April 29 of that year. The farm consists of 180 acres of land, pre-empted by him on section 33, of this town. At the time Mr. Potter located in Minnesota the country was perfectly new, and there were only six settlers in the whole county, the nearest postoffice being at Winona. In 1854 Mr. Potter was married to Hannah Abrams, who then resided in Wisconsin, but who is a native of New York State. The issue of the marriage consists of seven children, all of whom were born in this county. Mr. Potter has held the office of coroner. He was subsequently assessor of the town for three years, and one of the supervisors for five years.

JAMES, son of James and Martha Bucklen, was born in the town of Guilford, Vermont, September 18, 1805. In 1817 the family emigrated to Chautauqua county, New York. In 1854 our subject emigrated to Olmsted county, Minnesota, and located on what is now section 34, Cascade township. He was one of the earliest settlers in the township of Cascade. In March, 1855, he was appointed justice of the peace, in which capacity he acted six terms. Mr. Bucklen was married in 1830 to Miss L. A. Coe, a native of Onondaga county, New York, who died in July, 1849. He was again married in 1854, to Mrs. Parmelia Howard. Five children are the result of these marriages, four of whom are by the first wife, one by the second, and whose names are as follows: James A., Lewis W., Adelaide (deceased), Adell and Deforest. The latter is practicing law in Polk county.



COL. JAMES GEORGE, deceased, is remembered kindly by citizens of Rochester and vicinity. He was born May 27, 1819, in Jefferson county, New York. He came to Olmsted county in 1854, where he pre-empted a claim of 160 acres, with the land warrant obtained for services in the Mexican war. He practiced law until 1861. In June of that year he volunteered, and was made captain of Co. C, 2d Minn. Vols. On July 23 he was made lieutenant-colonel. He commanded the 2d Minn. reg. in several minor engagements and in the battle of Chickamauga. In the latter battle he lost forty per cent of his men. After his return he served four years as city justice of Rochester. He was candidate for congress on the Douglas ticket in 1860, and was before the legislature in 1865 for United States senate. He married in 1842 Miss R. S. Pierce, of Preble county, Ohio. The colonel died March 7, 1882. A large circle of friends mourned his departure. His life had been somewhat eventful, and he had so lived that departing he left behind him "foot-prints on the sands of time."

JACOB BONHAM, grocer, was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, in 1833. In 1854 the family came to Olmsted county, making a claim east of Marion. In 1869 our subject came to Rochester and clerked for a number of years. In the spring of 1882 he, in company with his son-in-law, embarked in the grocery business, and are having a lucrative trade. Mr. Bonham was married in 1858 to Miss Letitia Phelps, a native of Crawford county, Pennsylvania, and is now surrounded by an intelligent family of children. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

J. LYMAN WRIGHT, farmer, was born in Tioga county, New York, April 25, 1829. In 1851 he came to Wisconsin, remaining until 1854, when he came to Olmsted county, locating in Kalmar township. During the winter of 1855-6 he taught school in a log school-house standing near the present residence of Thomas Jones. In 1872 he was elected county treasurer, and re-elected at the close of the term. Later he removed to Cascade township. He was married in 1852, to Miss Margaret Etsler, a native of Maryland. Myrta is the name of their only living child. Mr. Wright is a member of the I.O.O.F.

JOHN HENDRICKS was born in Wayne county, Pennsylvania, in 1833. In 1854 the family came to Minnesota, locating on what is now section 28, Cascade township. Mr. Hendricks was married in 1854, to Miss Julia A. Stut, a native of Pennsylvania. Catharine,

Mary A., John W., Nathan D., William H., Ida S. and Annie are the names of their children. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Hendricks is a member of the A.O.U.W.

SAMUEL G. CUMMINGS, deceased, was one of the first settlers of Olmsted county, having made a claim in Cascade township, near the present site of Rochester, in 1854. After retaining this four years, he sold it and bought sixty acres on section 28, Kalmar, which is now owned by his widow and is the home of his family. Mr. Cummings was born in New Hampshire, June 10, 1835, and went soon after with his parents to Herkimer county, New York, where he was brought up. After securing a claim in this county, he returned to Herkimer county, and was married there to Miss Lany Hoke, who was born in Warren, that county, December 12, 1837. She is a sister of Mrs. D. Maxfield, whose parentage is elsewhere mentioned in this work. Mr. Cummings was a prominent citizen of the township; was elected a member of the board of supervisors in 1861, and chairman of that body in 1871-2-3-4. He was a republican at the time of his death, October 27, 1877, but had espoused the cause of the democracy in his youth. He was a member of the Patrons of Husbandry during the existence of the order here. His estate included 127 acres on section 34 at the time of his death, which is now operated by his son. There are four children: Naomi, born July 29, 1857, married Richard Brooks, resides in Kalmar; Harley, July 4, 1858, married Nelia Little, dwells with mother; Annette, June 20, 1862, married Fred C. Little, Salem; Roseltha M., April 11, 1865, at home.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS, son of Thomas and Hannah Williams, was born March 9, 1838, in South Wales. When about twelve years of age his family came to America, locating in Oneida county, New York; from there they proceeded to Kane county, Illinois, remaining about one year, thence to Lansing, Iowa, where his father died, in 1852. In the fall of 1854 our subject came to Olmsted county and located in Rochester township. He was married in 1867, to Miss Lucy Basset, a native of New York. Arthur, William and Edwin are names of the children resulting from the union.

WILLIAM BEAR, drygoods salesman, was born in Seneca county, Ohio, January 15, 1837. When seventeen years of age he left his native state and came to Minnesota, locating on a farm in Eyota township. In 1877 he came to the village and was for two years in

the employ of Plank Brothers, since that time he has been engaged with Blair Brothers. He was married in 1859, to Miss Henrietta Carl, a native of Logan county, Ohio. William H., Hiram C., John B. and Alice M. are the names of the children resulting from the union. The family are members of the United Brethren church. Mr. Bear is also a member of the Temple of Honor.

NATHAN S. PHELPS, Pleasant Grove, was born in Steuben county, New York, in February, 1826. Subsequently his father's family removed to Crawford county, Pennsylvania, and to Olmsted county in 1854, locating on section 35, Marion township. His father, Levi M. Phelps, died in March, 1857, and his mother, Phoebe M., died in 1875. Our subject was married in 1870, to Miss Maggie Waldron, a native of Michigan. Myrta A., Mary and Violet are the names of their children. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Marion.

JOHN VOSBURG (farmer), son of Darick and Catharine (Tomson) Vosburg, was born in Columbia county, New York, in 1821. John lived with his parents, assisting his father on the farm until 1845, when he moved to Antioch, Lake county, Illinois, where he worked as general farm hand. In 1850 married Miss Mary Sadler, daughter of William and Huldah (Rice) Sadler. Five years after his marriage (1855) he emigrated to Salem, Minnesota, where he pre-empted 160 acres in section 17, which he subsequently sold and then purchased 180 acres in section 22, where he now resides. In 1864 he enlisted in the 3d Minn. Inf., Co. K, and was engaged at the battles of Memphis, Tennessee, Little Rock and Napoleon, Arkansas. After being mustered out in 1865, he returned to his farm in Salem. In politics he always votes as he fought, for the republican party. Is very liberal in religious matters. Children: Alice, born December 28, 1852, married May 14, 1879, Eugene Webster. Almira, born November 29, 1858, married December 16, 1877, Mathew Williams. Ella, born February 12, 1862, married February 12, 1882, John Fugel.

ARON ANDERSON (farmer) was one of the pioneers of the town of Salem, having come there in 1854, and in 1855 bought one-fourth of section 21. Mr. Anderson has made a grand success in his business as a farmer. He now owns 340 acres in sections 21, 22 and 28, also some timber land. In 1879 he built a fine barn, 80×40 feet, and also has two frame dwelling-houses on his farm. In religion is a member of the Lutheran church; in politics is a democrat. Our subject was born in Norway, in 1825, and is the son of Andrews and

Carrie Christopherson. He lived with his parents in Norway, where in 1850 he married Anna Ola, born in Norway in 1818. In 1852 he emigrated to Wisconsin, and in 1854 settled in Salem. He has been blessed with three children : Albertina, born 1852 ; Lawrence, 1854, and Anna, 1863. All are married, Albertina living in Salem and the others in Dakota.

YELVERTON P. BURGAN, farmer, Pleasant Grove, was born in Lee county, Virginia, in September, 1823. Thirteen years later the family removed to Indiana, and in 1847 to Clayton county, Iowa. In 1854 our subject came to Minnesota, locating on the northwest quarter of section 29, Pleasant Grove township. He was married October 21, 1847, to Miss Elizabeth Collins, a native of Pulaski county, Kentucky. Their children's names are as follows : John W., Alexander W., Sarah M., (deceased), and Isaac E. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Pleasant Grove.

JOSEPH L. PARKS, deceased, was born in Hendricks county, Indiana, in 1829 ; came to Pleasant Grove township in 1854, locating on the southeast quarter of section 22. He married, in 1851, Miss Margaret Collins, who died in 1870. He was again married in 1878, to Miss Lucinda Vaunote. His children's names are as follows : Martha A., Franklin P., Lucinda A., Eli P. and James E. Mr. Parks died in the fall of 1872, of typhoid fever, and his demise was mourned by a large circle of friends.

JAMES GEORGE, deceased, was one of the pioneers of Olmsted county, and a man who filled many public positions, both previous to and during his residence here. He was a son of Moses and Mary George, and was born near Rome, New York, May 27, 1819. He was kept at a select boarding-school from his seventh to his sixteenth years. His father died when he was but nine years old, and on leaving school he set out for himself in the world, and traveled through various parts of the west, visiting Milwaukee, St. Louis and other cities. Returning to Buffalo, he kept books for a commercial house there ; but subsequently taught school in Canada and Ohio. During his residence in the latter state he served four years as register of deeds in Butler county, having been elected by the democratic party, to which he adhered through life. He also served four years as secretary of the state board of public works. He was married March 4, 1842, to Rhoda T. Pierce, whose parents, John and Mary (Kirby) Pierce, were of English and Irish nativity respectively. Mary Kirby came of a long-lived race, her mother



reaching the extreme age of 102 years. On the advent of the Mexican war Mr. George enlisted in the United States service and served during the war, receiving a wound at the battle of Monterey. In the summer of 1854 he located 160 acres on section 19 in the township of Oronoco, on the government warrant issued in payment of his services. This he occupied four years and then removed to Wasioja, where he raised a company of soldiers when the civil war broke out; this was known as Co. B of the 2d Minn. Vol. Inf., of which regiment he was elected lieutenant-colonel in May, 1861. After the battle of Mill Spring he was promoted to a colonelcy. At the battle of Chickamauga he had three horses shot from under him, and himself received a wound. At the close of the war he returned to Oronoco, from whence he removed in 1870 to Rochester and began the practice of law. He served as city justice with great satisfaction. He was chairman of the first board of county commissioners, which met at Oronoco in 1855. Col. George was a member of the Masonic order, and his religious faith most nearly conformed to that of the Episcopal church. He was a man of very positive character, and made both friends and enemies by his decision. He took quite an active part in politics and was well known and liked as a speaker. His death was very sudden, being caused by rheumatism of the heart, and took place on the 7th of March, 1882. He leaves three descendants,—Helen M., who married C. C. Emery, of this township, and now lives in Mazeppa; Edith A., married to Albert Farnham, and dwelling on the colonel's original claim; and Edward, a practicing attorney at St. Paul.

JOHN S. PEIRSON, son of John and Nabby Peirson, High Forest, was born in Canada West, in 1828. In 1835 the family emigrated to Winnebago county, Illinois. Our subject came to La Crosse in 1852 and to Olmsted county in 1854, locating on section 1, High Forest township. In February, 1864, he enlisted in Co. C, 9th Minn. Inf., serving eighteen months. He was married in 1853, to Miss Lenira E. Shoemaker, a native of Pennsylvania. Their children's names are as follows: John D., Nabby A., Nora, Carrie J. and Lou W. (adopted). The family belongs to the Congregational church.

JOHN P. CRIPPEN, farmer, Dover, was born January 22, 1833, in Huron county, Ohio. In 1850 he came to Indiana, remaining two years, thence to Wisconsin. In 1854 he came to Olmsted county and in 1855 took a claim on the S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 20, Dover township. In 1859 he went to Quincy and engaged in the mercantile

business. In 1866 he removed to St. Charles, after which he was made deputy sheriff of Winona county, serving eight years. In 1875 he again returned to Dover township. He was married in 1859, to Miss Hannah L. Monty, a native of Clinton county, New York. Mary L. (deceased), John P. (deceased) and Charles W. are the names of their children. John P. was a freight conductor, and was killed by falling between the cars at Adrian, Minnesota. Mr. Crippen is a member of the A.F. and A.M., and Orient Chapter at St. Charles, and of the commandery at Rochester.

ROBERT ROBERTSON, farmer, Dover, is one of the earliest pioneers of Olmsted county. He was born in Perthshire, Scotland, in 1818, emigrated to America in the ship *Harmonia* in 1849, locating at Watertown, Wisconsin. In the fall of 1854 he came to Olmsted county, locating on section 36 in Dover township. He was married in 1844, to Miss Janette Ford, also a native of Scotland. The names of their children are as follows: Janette (deceased), Jane A., James, Isabel, Mary L., Robert (deceased) and Martha. Mr. and Mrs. Robertson are members of the United Brethren church.

LEONARD KNAPP, farmer, Dover, was born in Lewis county, New York, in February, 1825. When twenty-three years of age he came west, locating in Dodge county, Wisconsin, where he remained until the spring of 1854, when he came to Olmsted county, locating on section 26, Dover township. He was married in April, 1854, to Miss Sarah Thompson, a native of New York State, and who died in 1864. Pete (deceased), Kate and Wright are the names of their children. He was again married in 1867, to Lucretia Harris, a native of Ireland, who died in 1880. George L. is the name of the only child resulting from the second union.

JOSEPH DRAKE (deceased) was born in Walworth, Wayne county, New York, February 2, 1810. In 1837 he came west to Jackson county, Michigan, thence to Minnesota in the spring of 1854, locating on the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 10, Dover township. He was married in 1844, to Miss Polly Killicutt, a native of Washington county, New York. The names of their children are as follows: Julian F., Ida, Daniel W., Miron J., Frank H., Albert S. and G. Mark. Mrs. Drake died in October, 1868, and Mr. Drake in May, 1873; both were members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

AMES BUTTON, farmer and real estate dealer, was born in Chenango county, New York, December 18, 1818. When nineteen years of age he came west and located in McHenry county, Illinois, where

he remained until the summer of 1853, when he went to Howard county, Iowa, remaining one year. In the summer of 1854 he came to Olmsted county and located in New Haven township. Mr. Button has spent a large part of his life pioneering, and says he never was happier than when living in a log-cabin. He was married in December, 1841, to Miss Rachel Robenault, who died in 1868. He was again married in 1869, to Mrs. Samantha Rorer. William W. and Charles R. are the names of his children.

MATTHIAS C. VAN HORN, farmer. Thomas Van Horn, of New York, was one of Washington's faithful followers through the revolutionary struggle. Among the prisoners captured at Yorktown at the close of that memorable contest, was a Hessian named Schoenholz, who also settled in New York on regaining his liberty. It came about that his daughter, Catharine, married Cornelius, a son of Thomas Van Horn. This marriage took place when Cornelius was eighteen years old; at twenty-one he enlisted in the service of the United States against the British, the war of 1812 being then in progress. At the close of this service he settled on a farm in Springfield, Otsego county, New York, where the subject of this sketch was born to him September 6, 1821. M. C. Van Horn passed his youth on a farm in New York. On reaching manhood, he began teaching, and applied his earnings to his own education. He graduated from the normal school at Albany April 5, 1849. His plan of pursuing a collegiate course was frustrated by a weakness of his eyes and failure of general health. He continued teaching for a livelihood. March 13, 1851, he married Miss Ann M., daughter of John and Amy Clark, natives of Massachusetts. In June of the same year he removed to Iowa. In the spring of 1854 he came to Oronoco and struck out thence along the north side of the Zumbro river; he soon settled on his present home and made a claim to 160 acres on section 11 of this township; during the summer he did some breaking and erected a log-cabin, and brought his family here in the fall. This was the first claim made in New Haven. His education and intelligence soon made Mr. V. prominent among the early settlers, and in 1855 he was elected one of the three assessors for the county. This position he held for some years. His political principles have always been those of the republican party; he has always been an active temperance worker and was for many years one of the main supports in the Pine Island lodge of I.O.G.T. Mrs. Van Horn united with the Methodist Epis-

copal church at nineteen, and in 1858 both herself and husband joined that body at Pine Island. Mr. V. came here with very little capital, and by attending to his farm steadily has made himself a comfortable home. Seven children came to bless him, as follows : Ida M., January 1, 1852, married June 5, 1870, to William Flick, and died August 16, 1873, leaving one child, Archie E., born May 13, 1871; Edgar C., January 30, 1854, married Emma Lightburn February 11, 1882, lives at Morris, Minnesota; Frances Ella, April 28, 1856, married James Spurrier March 29, 1880, resides at Minneapolis; Frank A., April 6, 1858, lives at Medford, Dakota; Effie A., April 24, 1860, married Hector McMaster December 21, 1882, home in Rochester; Emma L., February 13, 1864, and Eugene G., May 27, 1868, reside with parents.

ABRAM CLASON, farmer, is a descendant of James Clason, a native of Connecticut, who settled on the beautiful prairie bearing his name in Dodge county, Wisconsin, in 1841; here his nine children settled round him. Benjamin, his third son, and the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Connecticut, January 5, 1806; he married Cornelia M. Acker, a native of New York, in 1821, and was blessed with six sons and three daughters. On September 1, 1831, he united with the Presbyterian church, in which he was an elder from that time till his death. Abram Clason was born in Steuben county, New York, September 16, 1829. At fourteen years of age he went with his parents to Wisconsin. Here he was married November 24, 1850, to Ann Eliza, daughter of Daniel White, of New York; four children, whose names and births are here given, blessed this union: Frank E., November 7, 1851, still resides with his father; Stephen E., January 13, 1854, lives at Huxley, Nebraska; Hattie, April 16, 1856, married William Ruber on the day she was eighteen years old, and resides at Oronoco; Susan E., June 15, 1857, died at six months old. Mrs. Clason passed away March 16, 1864, happy in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which she was a member. In her death, society lost a most excellent member. Mr. Clason became a citizen of New Haven June 8, 1854, and has ever since resided here; he bought the claim to 160 acres of land on section 36, on which he still resides. He subsequently sold forty acres, and has developed the remainder into one of the finest farms in the state, and is now one of our independent, representative men. He is a republican in politics; has served the town as treasurer ever since 1873, his service



beginning in that year. On November 17, 1864, he married Olive D. Brigham, whose parents, James and Sarah (Horton) Brigham, were born in Pennsylvania and New York. Mrs. Clason is a member of the Oronoco Presbyterian church. Her children are Estella E., born April 15, 1867; Celia Alberta, November 30, 1871; Marcia A., January 2, 1882.

JOSEPH B. DEARBORN, farmer, came to the town of Salem in 1854, and was the first man who took up a claim in the town. He made his claim of 160 acres on section 5, town of Salem, and 32, town of Kalmar, and also made claims for a number of others the same year, and went to Illinois to spend the winter, returning in 1855 with his family, when he built a first-class log house in which he resided till 1872, when he built a commodious frame house in which he now lives.

SAMUEL M. HERRICK, son of Ebenezer Herrick, was born in Saratoga county, New York, in 1828, where he lived until he was twenty-one years of age, and worked on a farm for his father. He then went to Ohio, where he lived until 1854, when he removed to Elmira, Minnesota, locating on section 31, where he lived until 1857, in which year he bought on section 24, Orion township, where he now lives. He was married in 1853, to Lida Coffin, of Ohio, who died in July, 1855, and his next choice was Marian Coffin, a sister of his first wife. He is the father of five children.

HENRY GOODMAN, son of Richard and Dorothea Goodman, was born in New York, in 1815, where he lived until 1836, when he removed to Illinois, where he remained until 1848. He then went to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and worked at wagon-making until 1851, afterward returning to Illinois, where he lived until 1854, when he removed to Orion, Minnesota, and located on section 21, where he now lives. He received his education at Hanover, New York, having worked on a farm until he was twenty-one years of age, and learned the carpenter and wagon-making trade. He has both farmed and worked at his trade. Mr. Goodman was elected collector in 1858, which office he held for two years. He is a republican in politics. He was married in 1850, to Eliza E. Brown, of Illinois, and has two children, Francis and Harvey A.

JOHN HUGHES, son of John and Susan Hughes, was born in Wales, in the year 1826. In 1851 he left the land of his birth for the "new world," and proceeded to the State of Ohio, where he remained till the year 1854, when he pushed on to Minnesota, and



A. Whited



located in Eyota township, on section 29. During the same year he returned to Ohio, and in 1855 he journeyed back to Eyota with a team. He crossed the Mississippi river by the ferry then running from La Crosse, Wisconsin, and so destitute of ready money was Mr. Hughes at the time that he had barely enough to pay the charges of his transportation. Mr. Hughes has since bought on section 19, where he has a farm of 515 acres, and stock-raising as well as farming has been his occupation. He was married in 1864, to Harriet Neal, of Eyota, and now lives happily and comfortably on his farm, surrounded by his children, of which there are ten.

CHARLES E. TOTTINGHAM is one of the settlers of the township of Eyota, who came here at a very early age. The subject of this sketch was the son of Elias and Mary Tottingham, and was born in Clayton county, Iowa, in the year 1852. In the year 1854 his father started for Minnesota, and on his arrival there located on sections 34 and 35. He built a house there and did some "breaking," after which he returned to Iowa for his family, and moved them by wagon to his homestead in Eyota during the year 1855. He departed this life in 1879. Charles still lives on the old homestead, and is a practical farmer by occupation.

JOHN ROBERTSON, farmer, born in Randolph, New York, November 15, 1846, removed with his parents to Viola, Minnesota, in the spring of 1855, and settled on section 33. He married Elizabeth Rappleyea, December 25, 1865, and is the father of six children: Charles W., Ella E., Minnie M., Frank, George H. and Emmagene. He is living on his father's old homestead, and has four hundred acres of as good land as can be found in Olmsted county. Some of it has produced grain every year since 1855 inclusive, and last season yielded eighty-five bushels of oats per acre. His buildings are worth nearly \$4,000. His father, John Robertson, who died in the fall of 1877, was born in 1815, in Glasgow, Scotland, and came to America when he was twenty-one years old, and worked as carpenter and joiner for many years. He brought five horses, with usual trappings, and \$1,500 in money to Viola. In the spring of 1855 he sowed two bushels of club wheat on the sod, and fifty-two bushels, tramped out by horses and cleaned in the wind, was his return. He paid \$125 for his land and used the balance of his money to supply his family and his neighbors with the necessities of life in those perilous days of pioneer life, thereby contributing largely to their comfort and success. About thirty-nine years ago



he married Rebecca Watson, who is still living. The young man whose name heads this sketch graded about one and a quarter miles of the Plainview railroad, and was proprietor of a hotel in Eyota nearly two years, but he has returned to his splendid farm with a determination to spend the remainder of his days there. He gives very interesting reminiscences of Viola's early history.

MR. GEORGE F. EVANS, farmer, was born March 9, 1834, in Lake county, Ohio. His father, H. M. Evans, blacksmith and farmer, was born in Vermont, February 15, 1799, and removed to New York when quite young. He married Maria E. Brown, and then removed to Ohio. Thence to Cleveland township, Elkhart county, Indiana, October, 1836. He brought up a family of eight boys and three girls. His term of life was a little less than fourscore years. With satchel in hand Mr. G. F. Evans journeyed from Indiana to Minnesota in the summer of 1855, and filed a pre-emption right on 160 acres of land in Plainview township, in October of that year. In 1856 he purchased the N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 1, in Viola. Married Elizabeth Clapper, of Stark county, Ohio, May 18, 1856. The young couple commenced housekeeping with a scanty stock of provisions and twenty-five cents in money. Mr. Evans owns 380 acres of land together with a large stock of horses, sheep, cattle and hogs, and buildings worth about \$7,000. His children's names are as follows: Hascall A., Ella A., Eva M., Orra M., Hatty M., John M., Lillian G. and Guy T. The four eldest daughters are school-teachers, and justly classed with the celebrities of this profession. His splendid residence is surrounded by lofty pines, with a background of towering poplars and broad-leaved maples. His industry, assisted by a taste for the grand and beautiful, has made this elegant mesuage a theme of favorable comment for all beholders. He is a fond parent who has brought up a large family in the sunlight of love without a mark of the rod of chastisement.

HON. HENRY STANCHFIELD, farmer, was born in the year 1827, in Cumberland county, Maine. He came west in 1850, and was engaged in "railroading," acting as overseer of a gang of tracklayers most of the time for five years. He had the perfect confidence of his employers, and has excellent written testimonials from them. He married Mary Bryant, of Ottawa, Illinois, December, 1854, and she lived only about two years after their marriage. In the spring of 1855 he settled on the S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 26, in Elgin, Minnesota, the township adjoining Viola on the north. In 1858 he married Mrs.

Lydia Ward, a niece of the Rev. Caleb Sawyer. In 1869 he sold his property in Elgin, and removed to Streator, Illinois, at which place he became partner in a store of general merchandise. He bought land in Viola in 1870, and immediately commenced valuable improvements, and has persevered in the prosecution of them until he has the best appointed and most complete set of farm buildings in the township, and there are not many better in Olmsted county. He has 360 acres of land and has a valuable library and organ for the instruction and entertainment of his family. He was elected representative to the Minnesota legislature in the fall of 1875. By his second marriage he has the following-named children: Walter H., now attending the state normal school at Winona, Minnesota, Forrest S., Lucina E. and Lois H. Mrs. Stanchfield attended Mount Cæsar seminary several terms, and is a lady of fine culture. Mr. Stanchfield's parents were New England people of Scotch extraction. He and his wife have been members of the Methodist Episcopal church for several years, and an acquaintance with them of seventeen years induces us to say their lives are worthy of imitation.

THOMAS STEVENSON, SR., was born in Lanarkshire, Scotland, February 8, 1808. He came to America in 1851, locating in Maryland; thence to Olmsted county in 1855, locating on section 36 of Quincy township. He was married in 1829, to Miss Agnes Smith, who was also born in Scotland in 1808. Their children's names are as follows: Thomas, Mary, Isabel, Robert, John, Agnes, Janette, Lizzie and George. The venerable couple are members of the United Brethren church.

ROBERT L. STEVENSON, farmer, of Quincy, was born in Scotland, in 1836. He came to America with the family in 1851, and to Olmsted county in 1855. He now resides on section 26, where he owns a large tract of excellent land. In March, 1864, he enlisted in Brackett's battalion, serving until June, 1866. He was married in October, 1870, to Miss Lydia Darling, a native of Illinois. Robert G. is their only living child.

HARRISON DOUGLASS, farmer and grain dealer, was born in Macedon, Wayne county, New York, March 21, 1825. His parents, —Samuel Douglass and Dorcas Ginado—were born in Connecticut and died before our subject had reached the age of seven years. He was bound out to a farmer at six years of age, and according to indentures received twenty months' schooling before reaching his

majority. After coming of age Mr. Douglass went to Ohio and took up blacksmithing. After working a year in Ohio he spent seven years in Michigan and Wisconsin, and three years in Oregon and California at the same kind of labor. In the spring of 1855 he came to Minnesota and located 160 acres of government land on section 4 in the town of Kalmar; also purchased one-fourth of section 1 in the same town. Here he built a blacksmith-shop, and did work in his line for the early settlers, before anything of the kind had been done in Rochester or Oronoco, then the leading centers of the county. In the fall of the same year he sold his land and spent the following winter in the east. In the spring of 1856 he went to Walworth county, Wisconsin; here he was married, September 20, 1858, to Miss Betsey A., daughter of Daniel and Beulah Palmer, of New York. During the year 1856, Mr. Douglass bought 160 acres of land on section 27, New Haven, to which he removed with his family in the fall of 1858, since which time he has been a resident of Olmsted county. By various purchases, he has acquired other valuable lands in New Haven, and 240 acres on sections 1 and 2, Kalmar, a part of which he owned and sold in 1855. In 1871 he removed to his present residence on section 2, and in 1878 built the large elevator at Douglass station, named in his honor, in which he handles a large amount of grain every year. Mr. Douglass was one of the first justices elected in New Haven; was first school superintendent in that town, serving in 1860-1; was a member of the town board of supervisors in 1863-65-67-70. In principle he is a republican; is not connected with any society. Mrs. D. is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Their family includes three children, added to it as below: Ella M., born July 6, 1860; William E., April 9, 1862; Verna, June 13, 1865.

GEORGE HAYS, son of John and Rebecca (Miller) Hays, was born in Youngstown, Ohio, July 11, 1831. In 1836 he moved with his parents to Jackson county, Iowa, they being among the first to settle west of the Mississippi river, where he lived till 1855, when he again moved with his parents to Saratoga, Winona county, Minnesota. In 1861 our subject was among the first to rush to arms in defense of his country, enlisting in Bird's riflemen for one year, but immediately re-enlisted in 1862 in the 9th Minn. Inf., serving three years. He was in the battle of Guntown, Mississippi, June, 1864; White Oak Station, June, 1864; Blue river, October, 1864; at Nashville, Tennessee, from December 1 to the 16th; at Fish river,

Alabama, March, 1865; Spanish Fort, Mobile, Alabama, from March 25 till April 9, 1865, and at Fort Blakely, April 11, 1865. At the close of the war he settled in Elmira, Olmsted county, Minnesota, where he had purchased a farm of 200 acres in sections 1 and 12, where he still resides. In 1856 he married Miss Janette Winson, daughter of Abraham and Harriet (Baxter) Winson, born in New York, April 17, 1839, and by this marriage has five children, born as follows: John W., January 22, 1858; George C., December, 1859; Ida M., December 16, 1860; William T., April 9, 1866; Abbie G., May 18, 1868, and Marshall G., July 5, 1870. George Hays, grandparent of our subject, fought during the revolution, and his father, John Hays, fought during the war of 1812. In religion is a member of the United Brethren of Christ. Always votes the republican ticket.

ROBERT MOODY, farmer, son of Alexander and Mary (Nimmons) Moody, was born in Antrim county, near Belfast, Ireland, September 17, 1837. His father died about 1865; his mother is still living in Ireland. Robert being the eldest of ten children (five boys and five girls), most of the work on his father's farm fell to his share. In 1850 our subject's uncle, Hugh Nimmons, who was then living in Farmington, Minnesota, wrote to him advising his coming to America, which he did, accompanied by his brother Alexander, his father giving his consent and furnishing the means. His first year in America was spent in working for his uncle in Farmington, receiving \$100 for his year's salary. The second year he worked for A. K. Johnson and received \$125. In 1855 he purchased a farm of eighty acres in section 36, town of Farmington, which he traded for a quarter-section in town of Haverhill, giving \$400 to boot, and has since bought 160 acres more, all being in sections 1, 2 and 11 of Haverhill. Also has some timber-land in or near the town of Whitewater, Winona county. Our subject enlisted August 10, 1862, in 10th Minn. Vol. Inf., Co. C, under command of Col. James H. Becker. Was employed in hunting the Indians in this state (Minnesota) during the years 1862 and 1863; assisted in driving Gen. Price out of Missouri, and was engaged before Nashville, Mobile and Island No. 10. In 1864, owing to an injury to his foot, was for three months confined to the hospital and then mustered out. He has since suffered very much from the same injury. In 1866 married Mrs. Lorinda L. Bulin, born in Oswego county, New York, in 1832, daughter of Cornelius and Elizabeth (Austen) Holden, and by this marriage has been



blessed with two children. Mary, born 1867, and Laura Louisa, born October 29, 1875. In November 1882, owing to ill health, visited Europe, traveling through Ireland, Scotland and Germany, returning home in the spring of 1883 much benefited by the trip. In politics is a republican. Is a member of the Protestant Episcopal church.

JOSEPH TAIT (farmer), Pleasant Grove, was born in Northumberland, England, in 1836. He came to America in 1852, locating near Woodstock, Illinois, with his father's family. They came to Minnesota in 1855, locating on section 25. His father, Robert Tait, died in 1862. Our subject enlisted in the fall of 1861 in Co. C, 3d Minn. Inf., serving nearly four years in the army. He was married in 1865, to Miss Martha J. Rucker. Their children's names are Constance I. (deceased), Nellie and Ernest.

ANDREW C. SMITH (of the firm of Smith & Denton), Rochester, was born in Chemung county, New York, in 1832. When twenty years of age he came west to Oswego county, Illinois, where he remained one year, thence to St. Paul, where he, in company with two brothers, E. S. and L. D. Smith, built the first sawmill erected in Minneapolis. In 1854 he went to Winona and entered the office with his brother, who had been made receiver in the land office. Later he began merchandising. In 1858 he removed to Stockton, where he opened a store and mill. In 1866 he was elected to a seat in the lower house of the state legislature from Winona county. He came to Rochester in 1868, and was elected secretary of the "Farmers Insurance Company," which institution existed about five years, when the company sold out to the St. Paul Fire and Marine Co., our subject being made general agent for southern Minnesota. In 1872 he formed a partnership with M. G. Denton. In 1871 he was appointed collector of internal revenue for the first district, in which capacity he discharged the duties with great credit to himself. He now divides his time between his business in Rochester and manufacturing interests in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. He was married in 1856, to Miss Caroline H. Doolittle, a native of Chautauqua county, New York. Clara E., Willard D., Earl and Frank are their children's names. The family are members of the Congregational church.

THOMAS S. HARRIS, Pleasant Grove township, was born in Devonshire, England, July 23, 1813. He was reared a farmer; came to America in 1851, locating in Stephenson county, Illinois, Freeport

being his trading point. In 1855 he came to Olmsted county, locating on the S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 7, Pleasant Grove township. He was married in the town of Plymouth, England, in 1835, to Miss Maria Weeks, a native of the same county. Their children's names are as follows: Samuel W., Sarah J. (deceased), William, Thomas C., John E., Jesse, Rosa M., Justin M. and Elfrada G. (deceased). The family are members of the Adventist church at Pleasant Grove.

LUCIUS S. CUTTING, farmer, is a grandson of Jonah Cutting, a schoolmate of Gen. Warren, upon whose death he swore to be avenged. He at once raised a company of Continentals, which he commanded throughout the revolutionary struggle. His son Calvin was reared on his farm in Vermont, and served the United States through the war of 1812, and received the title of captain during his service in the state militia. He married Polly, daughter of Elijah Walsworth, a revolutionary soldier, and settled on a farm in Gerry, Chautauqua county, New York, where the subject of these lines was born, January 10, 1822. Calvin Cutting died when his son was thirteen years old, and the latter continued to reside with his widowed mother in Gerry. Here he built a steam sawmill in 1846 and operated it nine years. He was married February 25, 1855, to Laura, daughter of William and Polly (Sherman) Morton, of New York. Mrs. Cutting was born in Chautauqua county. Immediately after his marriage Mr. Cutting removed to the new west, settling in Rochester, this county, where he kept a lumber-yard one year. He took up, as a government claim, one-fourth of section 28, Cascade, on which he now resides, having settled here in 1856, and has since engaged exclusively in farming. He now has 360 acres here, and half a section in Pipestone county. In 1867 he built his present handsome residence, and the following year a large stone barn. If one inquires for a substantial, representative farmer, Mr. Cutting's name is the first mentioned. For three years during the war of the rebellion, when large sums of public money were to be handled, he was treasurer of Cascade township. His political preferences are with the republicans. Himself and wife are members of the Rochester Universalist church. Four sons and one daughter have been born to them as follows: Curtis L., enlisted in the 2d Minn. Inf. and was killed at the battle of Chickamauga; Chester S., married Louisa Dingley, resides at Woodstock; Olietta (deceased), Albert, Francis, December 3, 1855, home with father.

SAMUEL J. McDOWELL, deceased, was one of the pioneers of Kal-

mar township, and its first clerk, serving in that capacity the first six years of the town's existence. At the time of his death, October 28, 1864, he was county surveyor. He was everywhere respected for his noble and manly qualities, and died regretted by a large circle of neighbors and fellow citizens. Mr. McDowell took up one-fourth of section 33, where his relict and two daughters now reside, in 1855. He was a native of Pennsylvania, as were his parents, Abel and Mary McDowell; his birth took place August 27, 1832, in Eastbrook, Lawrence county. He was reared on a farm, and his education was finished at Wilmington Academy.

For some time he was engaged in teaching and as clerk in a store. He was married February 24, 1857, to Margaret J. McDowell, of Mercer county, Pennsylvania. She was not related to her husband, although bearing the same name; her parents, Edward and Mary McDowell, were born in Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. McDowell were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. The former was a member of the republican party. Three children were born to them as follows: Willis A., December 21, 1858, now practicing law at Blunt, Dakota; Emma V., February 2, 1861, and Marian A., February 16, 1863, are residing with their mother, who married B. A. Doherty in 1868.

CHARLES F. KESSON, farmer, is a son of Thomas S. Kesson, a pioneer of this township. T. S. Kesson was born in New Ipswich, Hillsborough county, New Hampshire, whither his parents, William and Mary Kesson, emigrated from Scotland. He married Rosannah R. Hurd, a native of Northumberland, New Hampshire. C. F. Kesson was born in the same place as his father February 16, 1850. He was five years old when his father brought his family to Kalmar. He was reared on the farm which his father still owns, on section 33, attended the common schools, and spent four terms at Wasioja Seminary. He was married January 8, 1874, to Sarah A. Dibell, who was born in Merton, Waukesha county, Wisconsin, September 26, 1850. Mr. Kesson rents land and keeps cows, whose milk is sold to the cheese factory near his residence in the village of Byron. His residence is on the site of the first house built in Byron, and was presented to Mrs. Kesson by her mother. During the winter Mr. Kesson is employed in the elevator at Byron. He is a republican and has served three years as assessor of the village. Himself and wife are members of the Baptist church. Their two children were born: Fred D., August 16, 1875; Lucy Floy, April 7, 1878.

IRA S. WHITCOMB, farmer, is a son of Francis Whitcomb, of New Hampshire, and Jane Evans, of Ohio. He was born at the Salt Works, six miles from Danville, Illinois, October 18, 1826. His father was a farmer, and Mr. Whitcomb has been an owner and tiller of the soil nearly all his life since arriving at maturity. His first farm was in Vermilion county, Illinois. He was married there March 9, 1848, to Cynthia A. Wooden, a native of that state; her parents, Amos and Eliza Wooden, were born in New York. After his marriage Mr. Whitcomb followed carpenter work till his removal here. He settled in Kalmar in 1855, claiming government land where he has ever since resided, on section 29. He has since purchased twenty-four acres on sections 8 and 18. During the summer of 1855, with Blair & Staats, Mr. Whitcomb built a sawmill on section 8, which the firm operated two years, and then converted it into a grist-mill. In 1864 Mr. Whitcomb sold out his mill interest, and in August of that year enlisted in Co. H, 11th Minn. Vols., serving till July, 1865. This regiment was detailed on guard duty in Tennessee, and was in no severe battles. In January following his discharge from the army he again bought a share in the mill. The following April the treacherous Zumbro washed around the mill and it was abandoned, entailing a loss on Mr. Whitcomb of over one thousand dollars. Ever since claiming his land he had continued to till it, and now gave it his entire attention. In partnership with his brother he is now quite extensively engaged in the manufacture of amber cane syrup. Mr. Whitcomb has been several years a member of the Kalmar town board, and also served as a member of the village council of Byron a number of terms, his farm being within the village limits. Both himself and wife are members of the Byron Methodist Episcopal church. They have seven living children, having lost three. William Fletcher was born December 25, 1848, resides still with parents; Moses P., August 13, 1852, resides in Oregon, having married Martha Brown; Elizabeth J., February 24, 1854, married Albert Waldron, home near Hancock, this state; Frances A., died at nineteen; Ira B., June 30, 1858, Monmouth, Oregon; Mary, April 8, 1860, dwells at Salem, Oregon, with her husband, Henry Whitman; John B., April 4, 1862, home here; Effie died three years old; Samuel E., September 17, 1864; Jeannette, died May 28, 1883, in her seventeenth year.

FRANCIS C. WHITCOMB, farmer, brother of above, was born at Butler's Point (now Catlin), Illinois, June 30, 1832. In company



with D. L. King and others, he visited this town in October, 1854, and made claim to the farm which he is now tilling, the northeast quarter of section 29. Returning to Illinois, he secured a helpmeet in the person of Eliza, daughter of David Matthews, of Ohio ; she was born in Zanesville, Ohio, September 27, 1836, and was married to Mr. Whitcomb, March 16, 1855. The next month they settled in Kalmar, but their period of wedded life was cut short by the cruel reaper. Mrs. Whitcomb departed this life June 2, 1856, leaving one child, Charles D., born December 11, 1855 ; he now resides at Le Seuer, where he is employed as a cheese and butter maker. The first sermon at Kalmar mill was preached on the occasion of Mrs. Whitcomb's funeral, by Rev. Delos Moon, of Oronoco. The first year of Mr. Whitcomb's residence in Kalmar was passed at this mill, where he was employed. He was again married October 28, 1858, to Rebecca A., daughter of Edward and Mary McDowell, of Pennsylvania ; she was born at Clarkesville, Mercer county, that state, December 2, 1832. Almost the whole of Mr. Whitcomb's life has been passed on a farm. For twenty years past he has been classleader of the Methodist Episcopal church at Byron ; Mrs. Whitcomb is also a member of the class. He is a thorough republican and temperance man. He was one year treasurer of Byron village, and for the last four years has been a member of the village council. He enlisted at the same time as his brother above, in the same company and regiment. Five children of the second marriage are now living, born as follows, all at home : Temperance A., September 15, 1862, school and music teacher ; Eddy E., August 28, 1868 ; Howard P., March 11, 1871 ; Orin J., March 3, 1875 ; William W., November 9, 1877. Two children died in infancy.

WILLIAM POSTIER, deceased, one of the pioneers of this township, was born in Westphalia, Germany, January 4, 1804. He was always a farmer. He married Hannah Seiveke, and emigrated to the United States in 1851, settling first in Waukesha county, Wisconsin. He removed thence to Kalmar, in 1855, arriving on June 7. He pre-empted eighty acres of land on section 9, and shortly bought eighty acres on 24, where he lived till his death, which occurred in January, 1858. He left a widow and seven children, all but one of whom still survive. Henry, the eldest son, mentioned below ; Fred resides on section 16, this town ; Charles on section 24 ; Caroline died in Salem ; George has farm on section 25 ; Julia, now Mrs. G. D. Bradshaw, dwells on section 6 ; William with mother on section 24.

HENRY POSTIER, farmer, son of the above, was born in Westphalia, July 8, 1834. He received his education in the German common schools and private night schools, and is a well-read man and good citizen. His knowledge of the English language has been wholly acquired by private study; but he reads and writes it with correctness, and is a leading citizen of the township. He was elected town clerk in 1873-4-76-7; assessor in 1860; several times justice of the peace, but would not serve; county commissioner in 1875, serving three years. Mr. Postier became a resident of Kalmar April 8, 1855, pre-empting forty acres of land on section 10. This was heavily timbered; and he shortly purchased prairie land, and now has 240 acres on sections 23-4, one of the handsomest farms in the town, and supplied with excellent buildings. Mr. P. is a member of the I.O.O.F., Rochester being the seat of his lodge. In religious opinions his sympathies are with the Adventists. In political matters he is a democrat, one of the two who stood by the party in this town during the war of the rebellion. He was married March 5, 1871, to Louisa Zarn, born in Mechlenburg, Prussia, February 18, 1851. Five children have been given them, as below: Frederick, November 22, 1872; Alice, May 2, 1874; William, April 28, 1876; Arthur, February 27, 1878; Blanche, February 6, 1880.

RICHARD MIDDLETON, farmer, is a son of Jehu Middleton, a minister of the society of Friends, born in Virginia. His mother, Mary Middleton, was a native of North Carolina. Joseph, the father of Jehu Middleton, was brought over from England with a brother and bound out to a millwright in Chester, Pennsylvania, their father paying £500 for their indentures. Joseph Middleton served through the revolution in Washington's army, and taught his trade to his son Jehu. The latter settled near Barnesville, Belmont county, Ohio, where the subject of this sketch was born, October 24, 1817. He was educated at the academy established and maintained by the Friends at Harveysburg. At thirteen years old he began to work with his father, and became master of his trade, which he followed till he came to Minnesota. At twenty-one he removed with his parents to Madison county, Indiana, where his father was pastor of a society of Friends, as he had been at Barnesville. He was married October 31, 1839, to Lucinda B., daughter of Addison and Mary Ellison, of Virginia; she was born in December, 1820, in Kanawha county, that state. Mr. Middleton took up his residence in Kalmar on June 27, 1855. His first claim was on section 4, and

he still owns 100 acres of it. He shortly bought 180 acres on sections 32 and 33, which he has given to his children. His present home is on section 17, where he is tilling 308 acres. In 1856-7-8 he kept a store at this point, and sunk \$3,400, owing to the financial crash of 1857. In 1857 he built a sawmill on the Zumbro river here and operated it fifteen years. In 1873 he built a grist-mill on the same power, which contains three sets of buhrstones. This he sold in 1878, and has since given his whole attention to farming. On July 21, 1883, his house was entirely demolished by a hurricane, and Mrs. Middleton was killed by the falling ruins. His barn was also demolished, and all his shrubbery and outbuildings were ruined. Mrs. M. was a member of the Baptist church at Byron, as is Mr. M. The latter is a republican, and served as justice of the peace twenty years, retiring in the spring of 1882. There are four living children of this family. Joseph A., the eldest child, was born January 8, 1841, died in the United States service at Louisville, Kentucky, in February, 1862; William H., March, 1855, married Emily Roof, lives on section 32; Silas A., July 13, 1858, is superintending a farm near Byron and studying for the ministry, married Belle Fairbanks; Mary E., 1844, married D. C. Bentley (now deceased), dwells at Owatonna; Eddie W., July 13, 1862, studying medicine.

NATHAN BOWMAN, farmer, is one of the pioneers of this township, having visited it in August, 1854. At this time he made claim to a quarter-section of government land lying on sections 3 and 10. The following spring he came here with his family and secured title to his claim. He very shortly sold half of this land and traded the balance for the eighty on section 1, where he now resides, and which has ever since been his home. The estate now includes one hundred acres and is one of the finest farms in this rich town. Most of his time has been given to the tillage of his land. He is a lifelong democrat; has been assessor of New Haven township, in which his land was embraced in the early years of the county, two years; supervisor of Kalmar, two years, one of them being chairman; in 1883 he was elected justice of the peace. Mr. Bowman is a son of Lorton and Nancy Bowman, natives of Tennessee and Kentucky; he was born at Crab Orchard, in the latter state, December 29, 1823. His life has always been passed on a farm. He enjoyed few educational advantages, but has given his children fair opportunities in this line, which have been improved. Mr. Bowman has been twice married, the first time in November, 1843, to Sarah Rathbun, who

died in 1853, leaving three children. The second marriage took place December 15, 1853, the bride being Miss Jane, daughter of John Lowry, one of the pioneers of this township. Mr. Bowman's parents moved, when he was small, to Indiana, and when he was thirteen years old, to DeWitt county, Illinois. His father died when he was fifteen, and the care of the farm and its development fell upon him. In 1845 he moved to Lodi, Wisconsin, where he dwelt until his removal to this state. Mr. Bowman was a member of the first Methodist church society, organized here in 1855, and still retains his connection with that sect. Three children of his second wife are living. Here is the family record: Elijah S., died 1880, leaving a widow, Helen *née* Sykes; George W., married, resides at Sauk Center, Minnesota; Sarah R., married Charles Dickinson and lives in Goodhue county; John L., born December 13, 1854, married Nellie Sawyer, home at Pine Island, this state; William C., November 25, 1856; Myrtie, August 16, 1869. Mr. Bowman's dwelling was destroyed by fire in 1882, and with it all his records.

ISAAC DODD, farmer, was born at Castle Carrick, Cumberland county, England, March 12, 1830. His parents died when he was a mere boy, and at nineteen he came to the United States, engaging in farm labor, in Cortland county, New York. He was married at Elgin, Illinois, October 22, 1852, and returned to New York and engaged in farming. His bride, Margaret Johnston, was a native of the same county as himself. She departed this life March 22, 1858, leaving three children. William, the eldest, was born December 20, 1853, graduated at Chicago Medical College and began the practice of medicine; married Nona Hitchcock; died in California while seeking restoration of health, May 20, 1883; John, February 21, 1855, at home; May J., December 29, 1856. Mr. Dodd removed from New York to this township in 1855, arriving June 8. His pre-emption embraced one-fourth of section 23, and he has since purchased eighty acres more on the same section, and twelve acres timber-land. He has a fine brick residence on a knoll commanding a view of the farm, and other buildings in proportion. Mr. Dodd was married the second time, March 29, 1862, to Ellen Ranson, who was born near Paw-Paw, Michigan, of English parents. Mr. Dodd has been sadly afflicted in the loss of children. Besides his eldest son, six children of the second marriage have been laid away in the grave; four are still living, born as follows: Julia A., Janu-



ary 26, 1869 ; Lily M., January 20, 1871 ; Carrie W., March, 1873 ; Edward I., June 3, 1866. Ethel Edna died at sixteen years of age. Mr. Dodd and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a republican ; was justice of the peace in 1862-3 ; supervisor in 1866-7-8-9, being chairman of the board in 1868.

HON. MILO WHITE, the oldest merchant in Chatfield, and the one longest in business in Fillmore county, was born in Fletcher, Vermont, August 17, 1830, his parents being Josiah and Polly (Bailey) White, who were agriculturists. The subject of this notice, after receiving a very ordinary common-school education, at the age of fifteen became a clerk in a store in his native town ; at eighteen went to Cambridge, La Moille county, and after clerking there one year went to Burlington and followed the same business four years, then in 1853 went to New York city, continuing in the same line of business. In the spring of 1855 Mr. White came to Chatfield, and in the autumn of 1856 opened a store and still continues in trade, and is what the world calls a successful merchant. It has been his rule to purchase everything which his customers would bring to town that had a value in the markets of the world over the cost of transporting it to those markets, and give them a fair price, and charging only a moderate profit on his merchandise. The result is he has a wide circle of customers in Fillmore and Olmsted counties, his home being in the latter while his store is in the former. Mr. White was elected chairman of the town board of supervisors at the organization under the state constitution in 1858, receiving every vote cast. Was president of the village council one year. Has held the office of treasurer of the school district for some fifteen years and of the village several years. In 1871 Mr. White was elected to the state senate and re-elected in 1872, 1874 and 1880 ; was chairman of committee on claims, committee on normal schools and committee on finance ; has been a great friend of the common schools, working hard for the normal schools as a help to the common ones : was once prominently mentioned for state treasurer but made no effort for it. Mr. White was brought out in 1882 by his friends as a candidate for the nomination for congress, an honor which he did not aspire to nor seek, but consented to the use of his name and was nominated and elected. Mr. White is a republican in politics, and has been ever since that party was organized. Mr. White was married June 26, 1858, to Hannah A. Ellis, daughter of Putnam and Rachel (Ingraham) Ellis, who was born in Fairfax, Vermont, September 11, 1836 ;

has had five children, three now living ; Clifton, born in 1859, died 1860 ; Carolus, born in 1861, died 1864 ; Charles H., born in 1863 ; Milo, 1868 ; J. C., 1876. Mr. White and family attend the Methodist Episcopal church, and while not a member is a valuable and liberal supporter of that church, but has given liberally to the other churches, including the Catholic. Has always worked for the interests of his town, county and state, and has lived to see a prosperous state built up with large farms and not only comfortable but elegant homes, where he spent nights on the prairie far from the habitation of man, and has great confidence in the future of the state and supremacy of republican institutions.

ABRAM HARKINS, postmaster, Rochester, was born near Meadville, Crawford county, Pennsylvania, February 24, 1821. When our subject was eight years of age his father died. In 1836 he bade farewell to his boyhood home, coming west to Detroit, thence to Rockford, Illinois, on foot. That city then consisted of three or four log cabins. In 1842-3 he attended the seminary at Mount Morris, Ogle county, Illinois, and subsequently spent a part of his time teaching until 1846. In June of that year he enlisted in Co. H, 1st Ill. Inf., under Col. Hardin, which regiment was sent to participate in the war with Mexico. The regiment marched through Texas, crossing the Rio Grande at Presideo-del-Norte. The division captured San Rosa, San Fernando, Monclova and Parras, thence making a forced march to Buena Vista, where the united forces of Gens. Taylor and Wool (consisting of five thousand men) defeated a force of twenty-two thousand under Santa Anna. On the 22d and 23d of February, 1847, Co. H lost seven privates and the first lieutenant, and eleven of the company were wounded. Mr. Harkins was married August 11, 1849, to Miss Soretta Beecher, at Roscoe, Illinois, where they afterward buried two children, a boy and a girl. In June, 1855, he came to Olmsted county and located in Viola township, Mrs. Harkins being the first female to locate in that town. In August of that year they buried their son, who died at that time. This was the first death in the township. His daughter, Alice L. Taylor, now residing near Waseca, was the first white child born in the town. Mrs. Harkins died September 16, 1856. Our subject was again married in 1859, to Mary E. Calvert, by whom he has had seven children, six of whom are living. Mr. Harkins was elected chairman of the supervisors in Viola township, serving in that capacity during the years of 1857-8-9, and in 1860

was made justice of the peace. He was also made county commissioner, and elected to the legislature in the same year. In June, 1861, he aided in raising Co. B of the 2d Minn. reg., and was elected second lieutenant later. He was promoted to the first lieutenant, and in July, 1862, was made captain of the company. He was wounded in the battle of Chickamauga September 20, 1863, and was here also taken prisoner, but was paroled on the 29th of the same month. On June 20, 1864, he resigned. In the same year he was elected county auditor, and also in 1866. In March, 1871, he was appointed assistant doorkeeper in the house of representatives, and in August of the same year he was appointed postmaster.

BURT W. EATON, attorney, was born in Chautauqua county, New York, September 29, 1854. In the spring of 1855 his father, Lyman L. Eaton, brought his family to Olmsted county, locating in Rochester. This venerable gentleman is one of Rochester's oldest and most respected citizens. The subject of this sketch received his early education in the public schools of Rochester, and in 1876 began the study of law, in the office of C. C. Wilson. On December 5, 1879, he was admitted to the bar, and in 1880 formed a partnership with Frank B. Kellog. For this young law firm we predict a prosperous future.

Among the thousands of men who, with no resources but strength and energy, followed the "star of empire" westward and cast their lot within the borders of the territory of Minnesota, comparatively few have met with substantial success. Prominent among the number whose labors have been crowned with prosperity is WALTER L. BRECKENRIDGE, of Rochester. He was born in Butler county, Pennsylvania, November 5, 1824, and received his education at Meadville, Pennsylvania, and Kingsville, Ohio. In 1851 he began the study of law at Meadville, and in 1853 was admitted to the bar. He practiced in Pennsylvania until 1855, when he came west to Minnesota, locating in Rochester, where he continued his profession, besides entering quite extensively in the real estate business. The first democratic convention in the county was held in his office in 1858. He is a lawyer of ability, and that his talents are appreciated is indicated by the fact that he was for twelve years attorney for the Winona & St. Peter railroad. Mr. Breckenridge was married in 1855, to Miss Margaret M. Logan, a native of Crawford county, Pennsylvania. William L., Margaret C. and Elizabeth B. are the names of their children. William L. is also a lawyer, and



*J. V. Daniels*





is city attorney. The family are members of the Episcopal church. By shrewd financial management Mr. Breckenridge has amassed a handsome fortune, and his home on Dubuque street is one of the finest in the city.

STEWART B. CLARK, implement dealer, was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, August 24, 1834. Later his father's family moved to Chilli-cothe, where they remained two years; thence to Van Wert county, Ohio. In 1853 our subject came west and located in Ross-ville, Iowa. In the spring of 1855 he came to Olmsted county and located in Oronoco, where he opened a blacksmith-shop. Here he made the breaking-plow that was first used in breaking up the streets of Rochester. In the fall of 1858 he removed to Rochester, after which he spent eighteen years at the forge. At the end of that time he began dealing in agricultural implements, which he still continues. He was married November 2, 1858, to Miss Elizabeth A. Herrick, a native of Saratoga county, New York. Mamie L. is the name of their only daughter. She is now the wife of Frank P. Edson, of Van Wert, Ohio. Mr. Clark is a member of the A. F. and A. M., and also of the chapter and commandery, being treasurer of each of the lodges.

EDWARD J. WHITCOMB, proprietor of Rochester brickyards, was born in Allegheny county, New York, in 1839. When sixteen years old he came to Minnesota and located in Rochester, where he started the first brickyard in the county. During the Sioux massacre, in 1862, he spent six weeks on the frontier, aiding in the suppression of the hostile natives. The brickyard is located on block 23, in Head and McMahon's addition. Mr. Whitcomb was married in 1865, to Miss Sophia Harris, a native of Ontario county, New York. Edward, Eugene and Walter are their children's names. The family are members of the Baptist church. Mr. Whitcomb is also a member of the I.O.O.F.

JOSEPH ALEXANDER, proprietor of woolen mills, was born in England, May 14, 1826. He came to America in 1844 and Olmsted county in 1855, and began manufacturing furniture, which he continued eight years. In 1872 he engaged in manufacturing woolen goods in company with N. G. Bartley. A description of his factory will be found in another part of this work.

Mr. Alexander was married in 1845, to Miss Hannah Knight, a native of England.

N. N. HAMMOND, grocer, was born in Otsego county, New York,

in September, 1832. He remained in his native state until 1855, when he came to Rochester, being one of her pioneers. He erected the second frame house in the prospective village, and the first wagon-shop. He followed wagonmaking about eight years, and then went into the American House in the capacity of landlord, where he remained eight years. He afterward kept hotel in Austin and St. Paul. In 1881 he embarked in the grocery business in Rochester.

Mr. Hammond was married in 1852, to Miss Harriet Woodworth, a native of New York State. Charles F. and George W. are the names of their children. He is a member of the A. F. and A. M.

MILO MATTESON, son of Truman and Maria Matteson, was born in Stephenson county, Illinois, in the year 1837. After living with his parents until 1855 young Matteson determined to "strike out" for himself, and in that year he came to Eyota, where he now lives. There were only six settlers in Eyota when Mr. Matteson arrived there, and there were only four buildings where the present city of Rochester is situated at that time. Mr. Matteson has ever been an industrious and successful farmer. In 1866 he was joined in matrimony to Helen Smith, of New York. The union has been blessed with six children, as follows: Charles, George, Hattie, Mark, Minnie and Frank. The first town meeting in Eyota was held at Mr. Matteson's house.

WILLIAM HYSLOP was born in Scotland in 1835, and received his early education on his native heath. He came to America in 1855 and located in the towns of Marion and Eyota, where he now lives and carries on the business of farming and stock raising. In 1863 he was married to Anna M. Little, of Farmington. Eight children have been the result of this union. Mr. Hyslop is a member of the Presbyterian church, and in politics he is an advocate and supporter of the principles of the greenback party.

WILLIAM H. PEARSON, Pleasant Grove township, son of Richard and Mary A. (Murch) Pearson, was born in Lewiston, Mifflin county, Pennsylvania, March 19, 1829. His father was a hotelkeeper, and also a civil engineer. He emigrated from Pennsylvania in 1833, locating in Columbus, Ohio, thence to Fort Wayne, Indiana, where he took a contract on the Wabash canal, then building. He subsequently removed to Niles, Michigan, thence to Chicago, and from there to Cassville, Wisconsin. After remaining there three years he went with his family to Clayton county, Iowa, where he engaged in farming. He died in Atlantic, Iowa, in October, 1882, aged eighty-

eight. Our subject came to Minnesota in 1855, first locating on section 36, Eyota township. He made the first arrest in the township, the details of which are as follows: Henry Brown had assaulted and severely injured a neighbor, and Mr. Pearson was selected to capture him. He went to Justice Nathan Phelps, of Pleasant Grove, who gave him authority. He was nearly a week finding his man, but finally captured him, although he drew an ax and threatened to brain Pearson if he came near. Our subject was married January 1, 1852, to Miss Elizabeth Rutan, a native of Pennsylvania. Maria A., Olin H., Elizabeth G., William H. (deceased), Robert L., James, Mildred E., Margaret C. and Paul R. are their children's names. Mrs. Pearson died in February, 1875. Our subject is a member of the A.O.U.W. at Rochester. He came to Pleasant Grove in October, 1872, locating on section 3.

GEORGE SINCLAIR, farmer, son of Adoniram and Jane D. (Young) Sinclair, was born in Kennebec county, Maine, in 1832. He there attended the public school and assisted his father on the farm till 1854, when he moved to Illinois, and in the fall of same year worked in pinery in Minnesota. In 1855 he purchased 160 acres in section 32, town of Kalmar, and sold it in 1856. In 1861 he bought 110 acres in section 34, Kalmar, where he now resides. He was married in 1860 to Miss Rebecca Fisher, daughter of Benjamin and Rachel Fisher, of Indiana, where Miss Rebecca was born in 1840. They have children as here noted: Frances A., born 1862; Ella, 1864; Effie, 1866; Irwin, 1867; Mattie, 1871; Lewis, 1874. Our subject is a member of the Baptist church, and in politics is a republican.

CHRISTOPHER ISAACSON, farmer, came to Salem in 1854, being one of the pioneers of the town. The following year he pre-empted 160 acres in section 7 of Salem, and has now 201 acres, part of which is in Dodge county. In 1874 he built a fine barn, 50×30, with a stone basement, and in 1876 one of the finest brick houses in this section of the county. Our subject was born in Norway, in 1827, and is the son of Isaac and Isabella Tvedt. On May 13, 1853, he married Martha Thoneas Swanum. He has had nine children, born as follows: Isaac, 1854; Thomas, 1855; Isabella, 1857; Christopher, 1858; Euanna, 1860; Olaava, 1862; George, 1864; Martha, 1866; William, 1868, all are still living (1883). The same year, 1853, that our subject married, he sailed in a sailing-ship for America, and after a passage of nine weeks and four days he was landed at Quebec, and by steamboat and ox-team he went to Dane county, Wisconsin, and from there



to Salem. In religion is a Lutheran, in politics a republican. Mrs. Isaacson, wife of our subject, died in 1869.

T. B. ISAACSON, brother to Christopher Isaacson, subject of preceding sketch, was born in Norway in 1837, leaving there with his brother in 1853 for America, and came to Salem in 1854, staying there but a short time, and then went to Iowa, where he worked for farmers for two years, when he returned to Salem and bought eighty acres of good land in section 19. He now has 380 acres in sections 7, 18, 19 and 20. In politics he always votes for the best man. He has been supervisor, assessor, school trustee and treasurer. In 1858 he married Miss Nancy Christ, born in Norway in 1841. He has seven children, all living; Isabella, born 1859, married to Bell S. Bale in 1881, now living in Polk county, Minnesota; Lina, born 1860, married in 1879; Thomas Christopherson, who died in February, 1881; Isaac, born 1862; Ella, 1867; Alfred, 1870; Edward, 1872, and Henry in 1881. In 1876 he built a fine brick dwelling-house, similar to the one built by his brother Christopher.

DARIUS WILKINS, farmer, is a descendent from the Wilkins family who came from England many years ago and settled in Vermont, in which state his parents, Amos and Mary (Hines) Wilkins were residing at the time of his birth, August 11, 1817. Darius spent his youth as most farmers' sons did in the eastern states, by attending the public school during the winter and assisting his parents on the farm. In 1838 he married Miss Nancy B. Little, born in Morristown, Lamoil county, Vermont, May 16, 1816, daughter of Asa and Kazia (Bigfoot) Little. The year after his marriage Mr. Wilkins emigrated to Illinois, where he pre-empted 160 acres of land, which he worked for sixteen years, and then sold out and again moved west, arriving at Salem on July 12, 1855. This last move was made by ox-team, and his family had to endure many privations during the trip. Our subject here pre-empted 160 acres of land, which he still owns, on section 15. He was elected justice of the peace in 1856, which office he held for many years. He is a democrat. In religion he is a Methodist. On January 13, 1854, his first wife died, and on June 25, of same year, he married Miss Harriet McKinstry, daughter of Amos and Nancy (Bigfoot) McKinstry, a relative of his first wife, and for whom he returned to Vermont. The children now living are Charlotte D., born September 8, 1842; Edward D., June 28, 1844, married in 1871 Eliza Hunniwell; Freeloze Kazia, born in 1848, married in 1870 Warner

Brooks, son of W. T. Brooks, of Salem ; Amos Ward, born 1850, married Dell Gridley, daughter of George Gridley ; Eva M., born January 28, 1860 ; Nettie F., September 28, 1861 ; Alma, June 21, 1866 ; Alva D., December 2, 1869 ; Hattie B., December 8, 1871, and Victor, March 26, 1874.

CYRUS B. DODGE, farmer, was born in Pelham, Massachusetts, in 1821. He is the son of Daniel and Ester (Brown) Dodge. During boyhood he tried in various ways to earn an honest penny, such as braiding palm-leaf hats, setting teeth by hand in cards, for carding wool, bottoming shoes, and wagon making, which last he made his principal business till his migration west. In 1845 our subject married Miss Eliza S. Crane, born August 31, 1823, at Greensboro, Vermont, daughter of John and Susan (Poland) Crane. In 1855 moved with his family to Haverhill, and pre-empted 160 acres of land in Sec. 17, T. 107, R. 13., where he has since resided. Mr. Dodge is one of the very few remaining old settlers of this town. He is liberal in his religious views. Mrs. Dodge (wife of our subject) is a Spiritualist. The children are George O., born June, 1846 (died same year) ; Frances E., born July 4, 1847 ; Charlotte A., February 10, 1850 (died same year) ; Cyrus, October 7, 1851 ; Ida May, May 3, 1857 (died 1881) ; Herbert M., April 10, 1859 ; Elmer E., September 29, 1861 ; Carrie S., June 24, 1865 (died 1875).

CHARLES M. SMITH, farmer, born in Orange county, Vermont, in 1828 ; son of Jonathan and Anna (Parker) Smith.\* During boyhood he attended the public school, and remained with his parents till 1849, when he moved to Rock county, Wisconsin, where he bought eighty acres of land and engaged in farming. In 1852 married Miss Permelia Graves, daughter of Henry and Lucindia (Orcutt) Graves. In 1865, answering the call for three hundred thousand more, our subject enlisted in the 49th Wis. Inf., Co. D, serving eight and one-half months, being mustered out in the fall of the same year. In 1868 purchased 160 acres of land in section 13, town of Haverhill, and in 1877 built a fine dwelling in the center of a beautiful grove of trees. Mr. Smith is a Mason, being a member of the blue lodge, of Elgin, and the royal arch chapter, of Rochester. Has been for two years assessor, and school-district treasurer for nine years, also town treasurer for one year. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are members of the Methodist church. In politics he is a republican. When about eighteen years of age our subject had the misfortune to lose the thumb of his left hand, caused by the

explosion of a gun during the June training of the militia in Vermont.

DAVID OVEREND, farmer, Pleasant Grove township, was born in Tandreege, County Armagh, Ireland, in 1826. He came to America in 1850, stopping at Cleveland, Ohio. In May, 1855, he came to Olmsted county, locating on the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 27, Pleasant Grove township, where he now owns over 300 acres of excellent land. In 1857 he was united in marriage with Mary Yates, a native of Indiana. Hattie E., David J., Mattie E., Frank A., Ora J. and Nellie are the names of their children. The family are members of the Christian church.

JOHN W. FLATHERS, farmer, Pleasant Grove, was born September 14, 1845, in Hendricks county, Indiana. In 1855 the family came to Olmsted county, selecting as a place of residence a part of section 23, Pleasant Grove township. His father, Lindsey Flathers, was born in Mattison county, Kentucky, in 1822, and was married in 1844, to Miss Mary Pace. Our subject received his education in the district schools, and at the graded school at Chatfield. He was married in 1873, to Miss Olive Collins, a native of Iowa. Their children's names are as follows: Mary E., Effie and Ivy E. Mr. Flathers and wife are members of the Christian church. He was elected county commissioner in the fall of 1882.

HARVEY F. BUSH, farmer, Quincy township, was born January 29, 1826, in Spencer, Worcester county, Massachusetts. The family are of Scotch origin. Mr. Bush was married in 1850, to Miss Ellen A. Elsey, a native of Norwich, England, where she was born June 10, 1836. Their children's names are as follows: Avery K., John G., Mary G. (deceased), Fred., Frank H., Abbie (deceased), Charles H., Rosa B., Nellie A. and DeEtte (deceased). He brought his family to Minnesota in the winter of 1855, locating on section 32, Quincy township. The death angel has been a frequent visitor in this family circle, plucking some of its brightest gems. The eldest son, Avery K., was married in 1876, to Miss Etta Hatfield, who died May 21, 1876. He was again married in 1879, to Miss Ida C. Bibbins, of Chatfield. Fred was married in 1878, to Miss Ida Betry.

MARK W. CLAY, merchant, is one of the pioneers and a leading citizen of Oronoco. He is a native of New Hampshire, as were his parents, Walter and Elizabeth Sanborn-Clay. The subject of this sketch began existence at Hooksett, March 31, 1835. He attended

school at Dorchester a short time ; at the age of eleven years went from home and worked for neighboring farmers, attending school a part of the time winters ; at sixteen years of age, with his brother, he engaged at factory shoemaking, and often pegged thirty pairs of shoes without rising from the bench ; two years later he entered a wholesale store in Boston as bookkeeper, and lost his health there. In the spring of 1855 Mr. Clay came west in search of health, landing at Winona on the 5th of April with scarcely strength to walk five hundred yards ; after spending the summer with friends at Roscoe he found sufficient strength to engage in business again, and in the fall of that year opened a boot and shoe shop at Oronoco, in partnership with his brother, Thomas C. Clay. In the spring of 1856 a general stock of merchandise was added to their boot and shoe business. On the first day of March, 1857, M. W. Clay was united in marriage to Joannah, daughter of Thomas and Sarah Stoddard, then residing with her stepfather, Lewis Wilson, in this township. He continued mercantile business until the war of the rebellion, and served as postmaster in the beginning of 1861. Raised a company of soldiers, subsequently placed as Co. K, 3d regt., Minn. Vol. Inf., of which he was chosen captain, and served with his regiment in the Army of the Tennessee. He was taken prisoner at the battle of Murfreesboro and confined three months at Madison, Georgia ; while being removed thence to Richmond, Virginia, with two hundred other officers, he was wholly without food during the whole journey, a period of five days. Capt. Clay was exchanged, and left the army in December, 1862, going on a farm on section 30. In March, 1870, he bought out T. B. Lindsay's store, and has ever since engaged in merchandising. He has been postmaster ever since May of 1870. In March, 1871, the store and stock were destroyed by fire, but he immediately built a store on the west side of Minnesota street, where he continued business until 1874. He then built the store at present occupied, a handsome brick structure, with hall overhead, at the corner of River and Minnesota streets. Mr. Clay was a charter member of Oronoco lodges No. 52, I.O.O.F., and 110, I.O.G.T., both of which owe their organization largely to his efforts. He has always been an ardent republican, and was chairman of the town board in 1878, clerk in 1870-1-2, and treasurer ever since 1881. He was a member of the first state republican convention, and was candidate for state representative in 1877, receiving a majority of fifty-seven votes in his own township, which had a democratic majority



of twelve, but was defeated abroad on account of his temperance sentiments. Now owns 286 acres of land at Marshall and Redwood Falls, in this state, besides two stores and dwelling in village of Oronoco, and possesses what is best—the health he sought in Minnesota, and the esteem of his fellow men. His family numbers seven children, as follows: Ida Augusta, born December 8, 1857, married Wm. Hoffman, June 12, 1881, and resides in this village; Maggie W., born March 22, 1864; Eddie M., March 2, 1866; Harvey I., June 21, 1868; Wellington S., January 19, 1870; Zelda May, January 21, 1872; Charles F., March 30, 1875.

THOMAS C. CLAY, deceased, was a brother of above, being one of a family of twelve children, beginning existence June 8, 1833. Engaged in laborious occupations, and coming west in the spring of 1855, spending the summer at Winona. The succeeding fall he opened a boot and shoeshop at Oronoco in partnership with his brother, to which a general stock of merchandise was added the following spring. On June 24, 1857, he was united in marriage to Miss E. A., daughter of Albert and Julia Seaman, of Freedom, Cattaraugus county, New York. In November, 1859, he returned to New Hampshire, where he enlisted in October, 1861, in Co. H, 8th N. H. Vol. Inf. He received a fatal wound at the memorable battle of Port Hudson, and died May 27, 1863. He is survived by his wife and two children, all residing in Oronoco. The eldest of his offspring, Nellie Clay, was born May 19, 1859, and is teaching in this county; Augustus Clay was born December 12, 1860, and is the stay of his widowed mother.

MAJ. ABEL MOULTON, farmer, is one of the pioneers of this region. His father, David Moulton, was a native of New Hampshire, and married Miss Sarah Wetherby, of Massachusetts, settling in Jefferson county, New York, where the subject of this sketch began existence November 27, 1825. At fourteen years of age he went to learn the trade of blacksmith, which he continued to follow a few years. When twenty years old he moved to Dodge county, Wisconsin, where he was married July 27, 1847, to Rhoda, daughter of Charles and Lydia Hyde, natives of Cattaraugus county, New York. He soon made another move toward the setting sun, and arriving in Olmsted county May 14, 1855, soon made a claim on government land in the township of Cascade, adjoining this. This he sold three years later and purchased land on section 33 of this township. He continued to reside there until 1877, when he sold

this property and purchased forty acres on section 17, where he now dwells. He enlisted February 29, 1864, in Co. I, 9th Minn. Vol. Inf., and served until August 24, 1865, participating in the battles of Bright's Crossroads and Nashville, Tennessee, Mobile, Alabama, and the forty-one days' pursuit of the rebel Gen. Price and army. On August 8, 1874, Mr. Moulton was called upon to give up his faithful helpmeet, who now lies buried in Pleasant Prairie cemetery. A large family survives to mourn her loss. She was the mother of eleven children, as follows: Clarissa J., born October 31, 1855 (who was married December 5, 1875, to James Haskins, of Oronoco village, which is still her home); Charles M., born November 13, 1852 (and who makes his home in Oronoco); George H., born October 5, 1854, and resides here; Julia E., born July 12, 1856 (who married Edwin C. Campbell, of Oronoco, where she now resides, September 26, 1878); V. Estella, born November 5, 1858, who keeps house for her father; Walter A., born November 10, 1860; Harvey L., born May 13, 1863; Hattie, born December 26, 1866, died January 21, 1867; Menzo J., born January 24, 1868; Lewis A., born January 18, 1870; Frank L., born January 13, 1872. Mr. Moulton is a member of Oronoco Lodge, No. 110, I.O.G.T., and in politics has always been a democrat.

DORMAN J. BASCOMB, merchant, is a son of Asa Bascomb, who served the United States on Lake Champlain in the war of 1812. His mother was Abigail Palmer, both parents being natives of Franklin county, Vermont, where the subject of this sketch first saw light September 11, 1829. He was educated in the common schools there. At twelve years of age he went to reside at Cleveland, Ohio, with a brother, of whom he learned the trade of carpenter and joiner. In the spring of 1850 he set out for the west and landed in Clayton county, Iowa, with \$5 in his pocket. Here he carried on various building operations, constructing hotels at Harding and Lansing, and purchased a half-section of land with a portion of his earnings. In the fall of 1852 he went to New Orleans, where he was occupied at his trade during the winter, and proceeded thence the following spring to California. Arriving there sick with ship-fever, he would undoubtedly have died but for the careful nursing of a companion. After recovering his health Mr. Bascomb continued the pursuit of his occupation, returning to the Mississippi at the expiration of eighteen months. In May, 1855, he came to Oronoco and took up government land on sections 15 and 22. The following year, in company

with T. A. Olmsted and H. D. Evans, Mr. Bascomb built the first flouring-mill here, which was set in operation with two sets of stones in February, 1857. About this time the firm also purchased the saw-mill previously erected on the power and continued its operation. The following fall Mr. Bascomb sold his interest in the firm, and next season bought one-third interest in the mercantile business of H. D. Evans, then invoiced at \$10,000. In the spring of 1860 he bought the remainder of the business, which he sold out in 1865. The same year he opened a new store in partnership with Samuel Withrow, whose interest he subsequently purchased. In the spring of 1882 he removed the stock to Clark, Dakota, where business was opened in partnership with P. W. Ware, who now conducts it. In 1880 Mr. Bascomb built a warehouse on Minnesota street, in the village of Oronoco, and is now engaged in buying grain. He owns 500 acres of land in the township, and is in independent circumstances. He is a member of Rochester lodge, A. F. and A. M., and of Oronoco lodge, I.O.O.F. In politics he has always been a democrat; was postmaster from 1858 to 1865, and has also been treasurer of the town. He was married August 10, 1858, to Marietta, daughter of L. S. Crowell, of Oronoco, and has a family of five children, all at home. Minnie L. was born April 11, 1861; Millie W., May 13, 1863; Bertie D., April 4, 1868; Teresa A., June 14, 1870; Jay, June 23, 1880.

NEWELL BASCOMB, carpenter and joiner, a brother of the above, dates his existence from October 25, 1819. He began work at his present trade when of age, going to Cleveland, Ohio, in 1844, and pursuing his chosen occupation there and at Mount Vernon until 1855. In the fall of this year he came to Oronoco; his family arriving in December of the same year. In the spring of 1856 he took up government land three miles west of this village, on which he lived from 1857 to 1865, when he removed to the village. The following spring he bought the homestead now occupied, comprising thirty acres on the southern boundary of the village, being that share of the village plat assigned to Ebenezer Collins, one of the town founders, and the first land broken in the township. On November 12, 1843, Mr. Bascomb was united in marriage to Mary A., daughter of George and Mary Damon-Upton, of Fairfax. Four children have blessed this union: Orwin Newell, born October 20, 1844, died April 14, 1865, in hospital at Gallatin, Tennessee, from disease contracted in the United States army; Edward Gordon, born September 1,

1846, married February 13, 1878, to Carrie Wheat, of Rochester, where he now resides, — (has one daughter); Sarah M., born June 23, 1849, who married Warren Wirt, of this township, December 25, 1866, and now resides at Marshall, Minnesota, — (has three daughters, having lost two sons); Marshall T., born November 18, 1851, who was married in December, 1875, to Ella, daughter of Martin Cook, of Rochester, now practicing medicine at Clark, Dakota, — (has one son). Mr. and Mrs. Bascomb were active members of the Church of Disciples while it existed here. Mr. Bascomb has always been a republican in politics, but has never sought any office. He came here without any property, and has placed himself beyond the reach of want by his own efforts. He received a shock of paralysis January 11, 1875, from which he has now nearly recovered, and has pursued his calling to some extent during the past season.

AMASA S. GARY, farmer. In the early part of the present century Amasa and Nancy Gary, of Connecticut, were living in Middlefield, Otsego county, New York. Here was born to them a son, whom they christened Amasa S., on August 16, 1820. The elder Gary was a farmer, and moved in 1836 to Du Page county, Illinois, where he was subsequently frozen to death while crossing a prairie, Young Amasa assisted in the farm work and received a little training in the district schools. In April, 1845, he married Matilda, daughter of Wilson Randall, also of New York, and settled in Waterloo, Wisconsin, where he dwelt eight years. After spending two years in Illinois, he came in June, 1855, to Oronoco, which has ever since been his home. His first claim was on section 31. During this summer he lived in his covered wagon, and built a log hut after the hurry of breaking and getting a start. From thirty to forty wagons were in sight from his location, similarly inhabited. In 1878 he sold his original claim and bought 120 acres on sections 29 and 30, where he now dwells, one of the handsomest pieces of ground to be found anywhere. Like most of the settlers here, he had little capital on arrival, and what he has is the result of his own labors. Mr. Gary was formerly a democrat, but is now independent. He has served several years as school director. Mrs. G. is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Their family has been several times visited by death. Ten children have been born to them, as follows: Wilson A., March 11, 1848, died May 9, 1873; Elbridge A., June 21, 1849, died February 8, 1863; Charles M., January 12, 1851



(who lives at Marshall, Minnesota, and married Susan Smith, December 18, 1872); Lillias M., born December 1, 1852, died September 10, 1853; Ida A., born April 4, 1855; Asher W., born July 7, 1857; Julius E., born April 22, 1859, died February 17, 1863; Ella A., born May 14, 1861, died January 30, 1863; Ettie M., born June 17, 1863; Elmer E., born June 5, 1865.

AMOS MOULTON, farmer, is a brother of M. A. Moulton. He was born in Adams, Jefferson county, New York, March 1, 1837. When eight years old, his parents moved to the vicinity of Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, as above related, where he received a common school education. In June, 1855, he came to Oronoco, arriving on the 8th, and took up 160 acres of government land on section 32, where he has ever since resided. On his way here he walked nearly all the way from Beaver Dam,—being then in his nineteenth year,—and camped on the open prairie with two companions the first night out from Winona. During the night they were surrounded by wolves, but escaped to relate their experience. After securing his land Mr. Moulton returned to Wisconsin and was married there November 1, 1857, to Rodema A., daughter of James and Almira Smith-Crofoot, natives of New York. He immediately returned with his bride to his claim, and during the following winter made sixty-five trips to the timber in New Haven, with oxen. During this winter a limb grew from the basswood ridge-log of the log cabin inhabited by them. Mr. Moulton has always made friends by his genial and hospitable ways, and is a very popular citizen. In 1859-60 he served the town as constable, and as supervisor in 1866-7-8. In political parlance he is classed as an independent republican. He is a member of Ashlar lodge, A.O.U.W., of Rochester. He is the father of six children, as here given: Olive E., born June 24, 1858 (who married Edwin R. Williams, son of Russell Williams, December 12, 1878, and lives at Rudolph, D. T.); Minnie I., born November 7, 1861, and died March 30, 1863; Iza E., born August 8, 1864 (who married Henry Brockway, December 25, 1882, and resides on her father's farm); Lucy H. L., born October 23, 1867; Orlan M. L., born June 30, 1871, and Maud B., born October 4, 1876.

WILLIAM B. WEBSTER, farmer.—In the early part of the present century, when Daniel Webster, the statesman, was electrifying the country by his genius, a cousin of his, by the same name and of about the same age, was pursuing his occupation of farmer and lumberman.

at Bangor, Maine. He was a native of that state, and married Elizabeth Boyd, of the same nativity. Here was born the subject of this sketch, on July 6, 1809. He attended the schools of the city, and assisted his father in the management of the farm and in lumbering operations. On December 14, 1836, he married Hannah Hoggs, an orphan; also a native of the state. In 1842 Mr. Webster removed to Will county, Illinois, and in June, 1855, came to Oronoco, making the first claim on what is now called Greenwood prairie, being the southwest quarter of section 12. Here he has ever since resided, and here Mrs. Webster passed away November 11, 1882. Six children mourn her departure; they are: Mary E., born in December, 1837 (who married Sidney Mosier in September, 1861, and now lives in Sioux City, Iowa); Daniel, born in 1839 (who lives at Plankington, Dakota Territory, and married Selina Deveraux in 1873); William Henry, born 1846 (who married Mary Culver in 1870, and lives near the above-named brother); John E., born December 3, 1848 (who married Carrie M. Fisher November 22, 1882, and resides on section 1); Martha J., born in 1850 (who married Alphonso Harvey in 1868, and lives at Edgerton, Minnesota); Andrew, born August 28, 1853 (who married Clara Alderson July 24, 1880, by whom he has one child, namely, Maud M., born October 6, 1881, and who resides on the homestead farm). William B. and Hannah Webster were both members of the Baptist church. The former has always cherished the political principles of the republican party, as do his sons. Mr. Webster served as a member of the town board for several years after its first organization and also in the years 1869-70 and 1872. He is still enjoying excellent health, and is known to his fellow-citizens as "Father Webster."

ALVIN BROCKWAY, farmer, was reared on a farm, at first in New York and subsequently in Ohio. He is a native of Salisbury, Connecticut, where he was born February 13, 1815. He followed farming until he was twenty-eight years old, when he was obliged to give it up on account of an injury to his knee by an ax; he then took up shoemaking which he followed for twenty years. In 1839 he married Elizabeth Mallory, who died January 31, 1843, without living issue. In 1845 Mr. Brockway was married to Phoebe J. Jump, of New York. The next year he settled in Avon, Illinois, where he followed shoemaking. In July, 1855, he came to Oronoco, arriving with his family on the 14th, and took up 160 acres of government land on section 32, which he made his home for twenty-six

years. Here he was deprived of his helpmeet by death on August 29, 1877. Four children survive her, as follows: Albert F., born September 14, 1848 (who married Sarah Blalock, and lives at Marshalltown, Iowa); Augusta, born April 7, 1851 (who married Albert Hodgson November 25, 1879, and dwells at Marshalltown); William Henry, born August 14, 1853 (who was married Christmas day, 1882, to Iza E. Moulton, and lives on section 32); Alva, born April 9, 1861, and lives at Blanchard, Dakota.

SAMUEL WITHROW, merchant and farmer, was born in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, October 28, 1812. His parents were John and Isabel (Cannon) Withrow, natives of the Keystone state. The subject of this sketch received his education at the common schools of his native place, and left there at the age of sixteen years to begin his apprenticeship with a tanner and currier. This occupation he followed until failing health compelled its abandonment at the age of twenty-five. He then went into mercantile trade, doing business four years at Uniontown, removing thence to Farmington, in the same county, where he served as postmaster and town treasurer, and from 1848 to 1852 in Virginia. At the latter date he settled on land near McGregor, Iowa, where he followed farming for three years, then opened a store at Volney, Iowa, in partnership with H. D. Evans. In the fall of 1855 Messrs. Evans & Withrow sold their store and removed their business to Oronoco, where the latter has ever since resided. This was the first complete stock of goods opened in this township. In 1858 Mr. Withrow sold his mercantile interest to Foster Paige, and purchased a share in the sash, door and planing mill then in operation here. The great flood of 1859 swept away the mill, and Mr. Withrow then turned his attention to farming, which has engrossed most of his time ever since. In 1865 he engaged in merchandising with D. J. Bascomb, but sold out to the latter two years later. He now owns six hundred acres of land in this vicinity, and is in comfortable circumstances. Mr. Withrow never married. In politics he has always been a democrat. He was postmaster from 1855 to 1858, justice of the peace 1860 to 1868, and enjoys the respect and confidence of the entire community.

LEONARD B. HODGES, was born in West Bloomfield, Ontario county, New York, July 15, 1823. His father was Dr. Louis L. Hodges, one of the pioneers of western New York, and surgeon in the United States army in the war of 1812, who was captured by

the British while dressing the wounds of American soldiers on the battlefield of Lundy's Lane, but afterward escaping through the British lines. The doctor died in West Bloomfield in September, 1834. The mother of the subject of this sketch, Susan Beaumont Bacon, was born in Mackinaw, Michigan, in 1803, and was the daughter of Rev. David Bacon, a missionary then stationed at that post. She was married to Dr. Hodges in June, 1822, and died in Asiatic Turkey in 1857. After his father's death young Hodges remained at home attending school until 1837, when he struck out for himself, first going to New Haven, Connecticut, and working over a year in a book-store, then back to western New York, where he worked in a hardware-store till 1840, thence he went to Corinth, Saratoga county, New York, where he studied, and worked on a farm summers, teaching district school winters until the spring of 1845. He then went west and settled on Rock river, near Rockford, made a claim on government land and opened a farm. In the fall of 1846 he went to mining in the lead mines near Galena. In the fall of 1848 he went to the Wisconsin pinery, got out a fleet of lumber, and in the spring ran it out and down the Mississippi river. The Asiatic cholera then prevailing, the lumber trade was so depressed that after selling out he had just five dollars left after paying expenses. Desirous of beginning life anew and at the bottom round of the ladder he inclosed the five dollars to his mother and went into some "old diggings" for a "grub-stake," which he soon got, and with which he purchased a very modest outfit, consisting of an ax, frying-pan, coffee-pot and bake-pan, a sack of flour, some bacon, coffee, salt, and a pair of blankets. With this he struck out for what was then known as the "New Purchase," in northeast Iowa, settling on Hickory creek, near the county line, between Allemauer and Clayton counties, in the summer of 1849, where since has grown up the village of Hardin. Here he opened a farm, and in 1851 was married to Miss Elizabeth Collins, daughter of Joseph and Almira Collins, of Winnebago county, Illinois. Losing his wife by death in June, 1851, and consequently again completely "broken up," he obtained the appointment of United States deputy surveyor, and at once plunged into the wilderness of northern Minnesota on a surveying contract. He followed this occupation in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Iowa, occasionally visiting his farm in Iowa. In 1853 he laid out a portion of his farm in town lots and named the new town Hardin, in memory of the



gallant Col. Hardin, of Illinois, and after building the first brick house in Allemauer county, Iowa, and getting the village well started, again he went to Minnesota, as before mentioned. Mr. Hodges lived at Oronoco sixteen years, during which time he was chairman of the board of supervisors, a member of the county board, and in the fall of 1870 he was elected to the state senate of Minnesota, and with Hon. Richard A. Jones, and others, secured the passage of the granger legislation of 1871, in which was established the absolute sovereignty of the people over the corporations. In 1872 Mr. Hodges removed to St. Paul, since which time he has been engaged in developing forest culture on the western prairies. In 1873 he was appointed superintendent of tree-planting on the St. Paul & Pacific railroad. In 1876 he was elected secretary of the Minnesota State Forestry Association, which position he now holds. In February, 1882, he was appointed superintendent of tree-planting by the board of directors of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, and is charged with the planting of forest-trees along the line of that road from the Big Woods of Minnesota to the Yellowstone river. In August, 1856, he married Margaret B. Rogers, daughter of Rev. John B. and Abby Rogers, of Saratoga county, New York, with whom he is still living. Two of their children died in infancy at Oronoco. Their only remaining son, Marcus R. Hodges, a young man of great promise, died in St. Paul, August 2, 1877, and their only remaining child, Miss Margaret Elizabeth Hodges, yet resides with her parents. In religion Mr. Hodges is what might be termed a practical christian, but too liberal to compromise himself by a membership in any of the churches. In politics absolutely independent, but with strong democratic proclivities.

LYMAN S. CROWELL (deceased) was a pioneer in this township. He was a native of New York, born August 30, 1814. He followed mercantile pursuits in his native state until 1855, when he came to Oronoco and settled on government land on section 28. Here he continued farming up to 1873, and then removed to the village, where he died, October 5, 1879. In 1837 Mr. Crowell was married to Julia Holmes, from whom he separated in 1853. During this time four children were born to him, as follows: Lyman H., born July 21, 1841, died April 22, 1863; Joseph R., born March 20, 1844, who served during rebellion in a New York regiment, being wounded in the lungs and thigh at the battle of Lost Mountain, and who is now in search of health in California; Martha A., born

May 20, 1849, who married Courtland Hewitt December 30, 1870, and now resides in this village ; Marrietta, born July 7, 1849, who married D. J. Bascomb, as noted elsewhere in this volume. Mr. Crowell was again married in July, 1865, to Prudence Odell, of Cattaraugus county, New York, who presented him with two children, viz : Melpia, born March, 1869 ; Vernon, born in the fall of 1870. His widow and two last-named children now reside in Mazeppa, Minnesota.

MICHAEL MCCARTHY, farmer, High Forest, was born September 29, 1826, in County Cork, Ireland. He came to America in 1845, locating in St. Johns, New Brunswick. Two years later he went to Pennsylvania, and in 1855 came to Olmsted county, locating on section 1, High Forest township, where he built a log cabin, with a thatched roof, and "mother earth" for a floor. He was married in August, 1852, to Miss Mary Collins, a native of Ireland. Ellen H., Mary A. (deceased), Jeremiah P., John F., Agnes K., Mary S. and William C. are their children's names. The family are all members of the Roman Catholic church.

THOMAS MCCOY, farmer, Marion, was born in County Armagh, Ireland, in 1830. Came to America in 1849, locating in Sullivan county, New York. At the end of three years he came west to Lee county, Illinois, and to Olmsted county in 1855, locating on section 20, Marion township. He was married in 1858, to Miss Ellen Burgess, a native of County Cork, Ireland. Their children's names are as follows : Owen, Maria, William, Bernard and John. The family are members of the Catholic church.

JEROME C. KETCHUM, Dover, was born May, 1835, in Clarksburg, Berkshire county, Massachusetts. In the spring of 1855 he came to Olmsted county, taking a claim on the N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 5. He now resides on section 6. He is one of Olmsted county's most prosperous farmers, and owns nearly eight hundred acres of excellent land. He was married in 1861, to Miss Mary Chesbro, who died in 1862. He was again married in 1864, to Ellen Sarnes, a native of Ohio. The names of their children are as follows : Willis J. (deceased), Della M., Frank E., Orville M., Merton A., Hollie E., and Ida B. Mr. Ketchum is a member of the A. F. and A. M. at Eyota. His first wife was burned to death by her clothing catching fire, and his eldest son was killed by the accidental discharge of a gun.

WILLIAM J. RANK, farmer, Dover, was born in Union county,

Pennsylvania, August 14, 1824. In 1839 his father's family emigrated to Miami county, Indiana. In 1855 our subject left the Hoosier state, driving an ox-team en route for Minnesota. He located on the southeast quarter of section 21, in Dover township. Mr. Rank was married in 1846, to Miss Elizabeth J. Donaldson, a native of Decatur county, Indiana. Sarah M., Samuel A., George D., Mary L., Thomas B., Elmer E., Cora I. (deceased), Bertha J., William F. and Carrie B. (deceased) are the names of the children born to them. Mr. Rank is a member of the Congregational church and has been an ardent temperance worker for the past twenty-five years.

WILLIAM H. HATFIELD, Dover Center, farmer, was born in Wyoming county, New York, February 24, 1830. When eighteen years of age he came to Clinton county, Iowa, remaining until 1855, when he came to Olmsted county, locating on section 34, Quincy township. He was married in September, 1855, to Miss Martha E. Thompson, a native of Ohio. Amelia T. (wife of Prof. Witherstine) and Maggie C. are their children's names. Mr. Hatfield was one of Olmsted county's pioneers, and is now one of her most respected citizens.

CALVIN HITT, Dover Center, was born in Sullivan county, New York, March 14, 1826. When twenty years of age he enlisted in Co. I, 7th N. Y. Inf., and was sent to California to participate in the Mexican war, and was discharged in September, 1848. In 1852 he returned to New York, from thence in 1854 he went to Illinois, and to Minnesota in 1855, locating on section 9 in Dover township. On February 18, 1864, he enlisted in Co. B, 2d Minn. Inf., and was with Sherman in his march to the sea, and Georgia campaigns. He was discharged July 11, 1865. Mr. Hitt was married March 17, 1853, to Miss Elizabeth H. Palmer, a native of Broome county, New York. The names of the children born to them are as follows: Ella P. (deceased) and Hannah E. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

JOHN STEVENSON, farmer, Dover, was born in Lanarkshire, Scotland, November 6, 1838. The family came to America in 1850, locating in Maryland, thence to Minnesota in 1855, locating on section 1, Dover township. Our subject enlisted in 1861, in a company which was attached to the 5th Iowa Cav., and subsequently to Brackett's battalion. He served four years and seven months in the army. He was married in 1869, and following are the names of the

children resulting from the union : William J., Pearl M., Thomas C., Grace E. and Olive M.

CHESTER PHELPS, farmer, Dover, was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, January, 1823. When he was fourteen years of age his father and family emigrated to Michigan, and in 1855 our subject came to Olmsted county, locating two miles west of the present village of Dover Center.

CHRISTOPHER C. LASHER, farmer, Dover, was born in Oneida county, New York, in 1823. John C. Lasher, his father, one of the pioneer settlers of Dover township, was born in the same county in 1802. He located on southeast quarter of section 17, in same township, in 1855. Our subject resided fourteen years in New York city, during which time he had charge of the stock at the Sixth Avenue depot. He was married in 1845, to Miss Cordelia F. Adams, also a native of New York. Ida F. and Hattie E. are the names of their children. Mr. Lasher came to Olmsted county in 1869, taking charge of the farm formerly owned by his deceased father, who died in 1865.

DANIEL SALLEY, farmer.—In the northern limits of the agricultural region bordering the Kennebec river in Maine was born and reared Daniel Salley, who married Catharine Fairbrother, of the same nativity. To them was born the subject of this sketch, November 21, 1811, in the town of Madison, Somerset county. The junior Daniel was reared on a farm in his native town, attending district school, which was held alternately at the residences of its patrons two months each year. On Washington's birthday, 1841, he married Miss Climena, a daughter of Ebenezer Witham, a native of Maine. Mrs. Salley's mother, Mary Berry, was born in New Hampshire. In 1846 Mr. Salley removed his family to Juneau, Wisconsin, where he resided on a farm for nine years. At the end of this time he decided to emigrate to Minnesota, and arrived in New Haven June 14, 1855. He settled on the southwest quarter of section 36, where he has since resided, and also pre-empted one-fourth of section 35, of which he retains fifty acres, the balance having been sold to neighbors as timber lots. The home farm being school-land, was bought when it came into market at \$7.50 per acre. Here Mr. and Mrs. Salley have lived a life of peace and contentment, enduring hardships in the common experience of early pioneers. At one time Mrs. Salley narrowly escaped injury by a block of wood thrown by a mischievous Sioux, who thought to frighten her. Here they reared a large family, and now live to see most of them comfortably settled in life. On



the organization of the Methodist Episcopal church in the neighborhood Mrs. Salley became a member and so continued as long as the society existed. In religious belief Mr. Salley is an Annihilationist, and is not united with any church. His house has always been a home for ministers, and he has always contributed liberally to the support of the gospel. In politics he is a democrat and has been since his majority. He was one of the most active supporters of schools, and served as director of his district for twenty years; was a member of the first town board, and of the same body in 1859-60-61-2-4, being chairman the last three terms. Twelve children were born to him, as follows: Joel, December 11, 1841, lives in the town of Rochester, married Alma Knapp, May 24, 1863; Daniel, born August 29, 1843, married Frances Reed, March 14, 1867, and lives in Faribault county; Phœbe, born April 29, 1845, lived but one day; Hester, born April 13, 1846, married George D. Bassett, March 31, 1865, and lives near Phœbe; Mary, born March 30, 1848, lives near above, married Benjamin Langworthy, November 18, 1866; Myron, born January 22, 1850, died June 5, 1854; Abby J., born January 16, 1853, married Charles Oliphant July 27, 1873, died in Brookings county, Dakota, January 19, 1883; Ella, born December 3, 1854, married Frank White, September 8, 1878, and lives near parents in town of Kalmar; Eben, born February 10, 1857, resides in house with parents and operates father's farm, was married December 18, 1881, to Eva Lord; Alpha, born November 25, 1858, lives in Brookings county, Dakota, with Ezra Hall, to whom she was wedded October 1, 1876; Warren, born October 7, 1860, married Sabina McCumber on Christmas day, 1881, and resides in Brookings county, Dakota; Emily, born July 15, 1864, dwells with parents.

F. H. CUMMINGS, JR., son of Francis H. and Hanna Cummings, was born in Boston, Massachusetts, September 3, 1845, where he lived until he was ten years of age, when they (the family, including our subject) removed to Orion, Minnesota, where they located on section 22. He received his education in Orion township. Farming has always been his occupation. He is a member of the Masonic order (lodge No. 50). He is a republican in politics. He was married January 14, 1873, to Aribell L. McElderry, of Orion, which union has been blessed with four children, three of whom are living.

LEMUEL DENNY, son of Beruch and Harriet Denny, was born in Illinois, November 30, 1843, where he lived until 1855. He then removed with his parents to Orion, Minnesota, and located on sec-

tion 31, where he now lives. He received his education here in Orion town. By occupation he is a farmer and carpenter. He enlisted August 26, 1864, in Co. I, 11th Minn. Inf., and was discharged at the close of the war in 1865. He was elected supervisor of the town in 1872, and has held the office ever since. He is a republican, and was married in 1874, to Josie M. Dorr, of Orion. The union has been blessed with three children : Clarence, Ira and Albert.

LEVI LOVEJOY, son of Joel and Polly Lovejoy, was born in Chautauqua county, New York, in 1833, and lived there until 1840, when he was brought to Pennsylvania with his parents, where he lived and worked on the farm, and learned the carpenter's trade, until 1855, when he removed to Orion, Minnesota, and located on section 24, where he now lives. He received his early education in Pennsylvania. He enlisted in the 2d Minn. Inf. in February, 1864, and was discharged July, 1865. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and is a republican in politics. Mr. Lovejoy was married to Mary Ann Williamson, of Fillmore, in 1857. The union has been blessed with six children, five boys and one girl.

FRANKLIN B. BURK, son of Jonathan and Gracia Burk, was born in Windsor, Vermont, in 1809. He lived there until he was seven years of age, and then went to New Hampshire and lived with his uncle until he was twenty-one years of age, where he received his early education. He was married in 1834, to Lucy Weld, of New Hampshire, and was blessed with three children. In 1840 his first wife died, and in the same year he married Prudence Wilkesons, of Vermont. He lived in New Hampshire until 1851, when he removed to Canada, near Lake Erie, where he lived until the fall of 1855. He then removed to Minnesota and located on section 10, Orion township, where he now lives. Mr. Burk's second wife died in 1863. He married a third wife in 1878, namely : Mercy Jane Green, of Chatfield. He was appointed captain by the governor of the state in 1863, and had a company of state militia. He was elected justice at the first town meeting in 1858. He was elected chairman of the board of supervisors of the town in 1864, and has held various other offices in the town. In politics he is a republican.

CURTIS E. BURK, son of Franklan B. and Lucy Burk, was born in Sullivan county, New Hampshire, October 10, 1835, where he lived until he was sixteen years of age, working on farm and going to school. He then removed to Canada with his parents in 1851, where he lived for three years. He then came to Orion, Minnesota, and

located on section 10. He enlisted February 29, 1864, in the 2d Minn. Inf., and was discharged at the close of the war in 1865. He has been supervisor of the town for twelve years and assessor for thirteen years. He is chairman of the town and assessor at the present time. In 1860 he was married to Ellen M. Case, of Orion, who died in November, 1875. He was married to Mary A. Loomis, of Elmira township, in 1877, and is the father of three children.

HENRY C. PROUDFOOT, farmer, is a son of Edward Proudfoot and Rebecca Adelaide, who emigrated from England to Pennsylvania in 1836. They were among the pioneers of Olmsted county, having settled near Rochester in the fall of 1855. Our subject was born at Athens, Bradford county, Pennsylvania, July 14, 1844. His life was passed on a farm until eighteen years of age, when he was employed as clerk in a military store at Bowling Green, Kentucky. At the close of the war he passed one season on his father's farm, and then entered a store in Rochester as salesman. In 1876 he commenced dealing in wheat and continued for two years; he then went to Chester and was employed in a store and elevator for several years. From 1876 to 1879 he bought wheat at the steam-mill in Rochester. Having engaged in an unfortunate land deal in Mower county he became somewhat disabled financially, and removed to New Haven in 1879 and engaged in farm operations, which have since occupied him. July 9, 1873, Mr. Proudfoot was united in marriage to Miss Emily, daughter of Abiron M. Howard and Amelia M. Whitcomb, natives of Massachusetts and New York. Their family includes three children, born as follows: Grace H., July 18, 1874; Carleton A., October 10, 1876; Ralph A., June 18, 1878. While employed in a planing-mill at Rochester for a short time Mr. P. lost all the fingers of his left hand save the smallest, by a saw. In politics he is a democrat, but never engaged in public affairs. He is not connected with any church; Mrs. P. united with the Baptist church at Rochester when fourteen years old, and is still a member of that body.

MICHAEL ST. GEORGE, farmer, Marion, was born in County Kilkenny, Ireland, September, 1817. He came to America in 1837, stopping a short time in New York, thence to Savannah, Georgia, where he spent five successive winters, coming north in the summer. Later he went to Buffalo, New York, remaining seven years, thence to Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, and from that place to Indiana. In May, 1856, he came to Olmsted county, Minnesota, locating on sec-

tion 29, Marion township. He was married in 1840, to Miss Julia Kelly. Martin, James and Julia are the names of their only living children. All are members of the Roman Catholic church.

LUTHER L. MCCOY, farmer, son of Lorenzo and Mary (Ketchum) McCoy, of the town of Crete, Illinois, at which place Luther was born in the year 1845, and in 1856 moved with his parents to Salem, where he received a public school education. He lived with his parents until the breaking out of the civil war in 1861, when he at once took up arms in defense of his country by enlisting in the 3d Minn. Inf., Co. K, for three years. In 1864 his term of service being ended, he again enlisted in the same regiment and company, serving till the end of the war, being mustered out at Fort Snelling. He was engaged at the battles of Murfreesboro, Augusta and at Wood Lake, Minnesota, fighting Indians. Our subject's health completely failed him from exposure during the war and he has never since thoroughly recovered from its ill effects. His brother, Andrew McCoy (present town clerk of Salem) enlisted in 1862 in the 9th Minn. Inf., Co. F; was captured by Gen. Forrest and sent to Andersonville prison and paroled in December, 1864, thirty days from which time he rejoined his regiment, serving till the end of the war. After the close of the war Luther returned to his home in Salem and assisted his father on his farm. In 1870 he purchased sixty-five acres in section 15, and has since bought sixty-five more in same section, making in all one hundred and thirty acres. In 1873 he married Miss Martha L. Luce, born in Chautauqua county, New York, in the year 1847, and has by this marriage four children, born as follows: Amy, 1877; Myrtle, 1878; Ernest, 1880, and Mable, 1882. In religion he is a liberal; in politics a republican.

In the memory of the people of Olmsted county, a prominent place is occupied by the subject of this brief sketch, Hon. JOHN V. DANIELS (deceased). He was born in the town of Summit, Schoharie county, New York, September 5, 1809. His boyhood days were spent in Tioga county. He received an academical education, and for several years afterward taught school in that and adjoining counties. In November, 1832, was married to Miss Hester Ann Wheeler, also a native of Schoharie county, and subsequently located in Owego, where he embarked in the dry goods business. In 1840 he removed to Bradford county, Pennsylvania, and there engaged in lumbering, which he continued until 1856. In January of that year Mrs. Daniels died and was buried at Burlington. In the fall of 1856



he came to Minnesota, locating in Rochester ; in the following spring his son, Milton J., followed him, and in the fall of 1858 the rest of the family, one son and daughter, joined them, and during his life he made his home with his only daughter, Mrs. A. M. Ozmun, now of St. Paul. In 1862 he was elected to a seat in the senate, of which body he was a member until 1868. In 1875 he was elected to a seat in the house of representatives, and in the following year was again elected to the senate, serving during the sessions of 1876-7. At the time of his death he was a member of the house of representatives, having served alternately in the two houses for eleven sessions, and assisted in every senatorial election from the time he entered public life to the time of his death. During the war he was appointed to the important post of commissioner to take the soldiers' votes at the presidential election of 1864, which necessitated a visit to the Minnesota regiments in their respective positions through the south, which visit proved a pleasant surprise for his son, who was an officer in the ninth regiment, and was at that time at the front. In 1880 he was a delegate to the national convention at Chicago, and at the time of the "break up" voted for Garfield. It might be mentioned as a coincidence that his remains were carried to their final resting-place on the same day as those of the illustrious president. He died September 24, 1881, of heart disease, having been in active business life until the time of his death. Don A., Milton J., Mary, Celia, now wife of A. M. Ozmun, of St. Paul, and E. Webb are the names of the surviving children. Mr. Daniels was a lifelong member of the Baptist church, having been one of the organizers of the congregation at Rochester, and was one of the most liberal contributors to the fund for erecting the present church building, and was a deacon from the organization until the time of his death. The family received a letter of sympathy from Gov. Pillsbury, with whom the deceased had been on intimate terms.

VOLNEY D. NIXON, carpenter, was the first child born of caucasian parents in Boone county, Illinois. His parents, Volney D. Nixon and Anna Van Gorder, were born in Canandaigua, New York, and settled on the site of Belvidere in 1838, before any survey of that region had been made. Here the subject of this sketch was born, on August 19, 1838, and four weeks later his father died. His mother remained there, and subsequently married Z. C. Sawtelle, a carpenter. Young Nixon was reared under his care, receiving a good common school education and learning the carpenter's

trade. Mr. Nixon is one of the pioneers of Olmsted county, having taken up government land in section 15, Kalmar, on which he resided eleven years. He has seen an exciting and varied army experience, being one of the first to enlist under Uncle Sam's banner and one of the last to quit the service during the late civil war. His first enlistment was in Co. H, 3d Wis. Inf., and he served in the army of the Potomac; was an actor in the battles of Antietam, Smoky Hill, Fredericksburg and Winchester. At the latter point he was made a prisoner, and after a period of imprisonment at Libby was paroled, and discharged in March, 1863. In April he joined Sibley's expedition against the Sioux Indians, and served till fall. He then returned to his old home in Illinois and joined the 3d Ill. Cav., proceeding at once to Louisiana. On the occasion of Forrest's raid into Memphis, his regiment was lying there in camp without arms or horses, and many of the men were mercilessly slaughtered. It was Mr. Nixon's fortune to escape this fate, and the regiment being soon after armed and mounted was sent to join Gen. Thomas' command. While in action before Nashville, Mr. Nixon was again made prisoner by the rebels and kept at Cahawba, Alabama, till released by the close of hostilities. In 1866 he sold his farm and resided two years in Rochester. Here he was married July 16, 1868, to Miss C. H. Michael, daughter of William D. Michael, a pioneer of Haverhill township. He immediately settled in the village of Eyota, where his home has been ever since. Being a practical brick-maker, he soon ascertained by experiment that brick could be made of the soil here, and started a brickyard. After burning a few kilns, of which some of the best buildings in town are built, he sold out and has ever since devoted his time to his trade. Mr. Nixon claims to vote as he fought, for republican principles. His family includes four boys, the eldest child, a girl, having died when five years old. His sons were born as here noted: Harry, April 23, 1873; Curtis, August 9, 1875; Charles, May 23, 1878; Sterling, December 11, 1881.

ROBERT WALDRON, farmer, is a son of John Waldron, son of a revolutionary soldier. John Waldron married Amy, daughter of Capt. John Gardner (who served the colonies through the revolutionary war), and was living at Haverstraw, New York, October 9, 1806, at which time and place the subject of this sketch was born. The Waldron family came from Holland. Robert Waldron was taken by his parents to Onondago county when two years old, and

was reared there on a farm. On July 16, 1831, he was married to Nancy Holmes, born in Bangor, Maine, January 28, 1806; her father, Ephraim Holmes, was also a native of Bangor. Immediately after his marriage Mr. Waldron settled on a farm in Branch county, Michigan, fifty-five miles from any other settlement. He has thus been a pioneer of two states. After two years' residence in Illinois Mr. Waldron settled in Cascade, May 8, 1856. He visited this country in June, 1854, but at once returned to Illinois. On arriving here with his family he purchased four hundred acres of land on sections 30 and 31, where his home has been to this time. Subsequent purchases have added three hundred acres to his domain. In 1861 he built the handsome stone house in which he resides, at a cost of over one thousand dollars, besides his own labor. His farm is also graced with large barns and outbuildings, tenant-house, etc. By proper care he has raised a fine orchard of various fruits, black walnuts, etc., and is a prosperous farmer. The greatest bar to his present happiness is the fact that death took away his life-partner February 13, 1876. Mrs. Waldron is survived by four children, whose record is here given: William R., born July 16, 1835, married Mary Graham, lives with his father; Margaret, November 13, 1837, married Nathan Phelps, with whom she dwells in Pleasant Grove township; George W., December 19, 1838, married Anna Bird, resides on section 35, Kalmar; Josephine, October 23, 1842, married John Doubleday, home in Rochester. The eldest daughter taught the first school in Mr. W.'s present school district in 1856, before the district was organized. The school was held in a claim shanty. Mr. Waldron is a Freethinker. Has always been a democrat. Was assessor of Cascade township one year, and has been twice elected justice of the peace, but refused to serve.

DAVID SHAVER, blacksmith, was born in Sanford, Broome county, New York, March 24, 1829. His parents, Adam Shaver and Sarah Anthony, were natives of New York and Pennsylvania. Until eighteen years of age his life was passed on a farm, receiving the benefits of the common school. He was then apprenticed to a blacksmith, with whom he served eight years. At the close of his service he operated a shop, and was regarded as a highly finished workman. In 1854 he settled at Kenosha, Wisconsin, where he remained two years. In 1856 he became a resident of Minnesota, and has dwelt here since. He pre-empted forty acres of land in the town of Mil-

ton, Dodge county, and shortly after purchased forty acres adjoining it in the town of New Haven, this county. His residence has been in Dodge county until his removal to Byron in the fall of 1882. He began blacksmith-work here in the spring of that year, his son having worked the farm since that time. Mr. Shaver has always worked at his trade while here, having a shop on the farm. Himself and wife are members of the Baptist church. In political opinions Mr. Shaver classes himself with the republicans. His marriage took place in Oneida county, New York, May 29, 1853, the bride being Miss Cynthia A. Newman, who was born January 31, 1833, in Troy, New York. Her father, Samuel Newman, was born in Baltimore, and her mother, Eliza Ferrall, in Troy. Six children have been born to them, as follows : George, May 22, 1854, married Lucy Simmons and resides in Iowa ; Merritt C., April 14, 1856, married Nettie Bassett and resides at same place as above ; Romanzo, February 22, 1859, and is on the farm ; Charles, February 3, 1861, married Jessie Bryant and resides at Byron ; Lillie, October 7, 1867 ; Ernest, October 28, 1869.

STANTON B. KENDALL, M.D., is the pioneer physician of this region. He was born in the town of Ira, Rutland county, Vermont, March 17, 1808. His parents, Ephraim and Lucinda (Brown) Kendall, emigrated from England to the United States, and his father served the land of his adoption through the war of 1812. When he was thirteen years old his parents removed to Bradford county, Pennsylvania, and he received his education at Wellsborough. On arriving at maturity he engaged in carriage-making. On December 18, 1832, he was united in marriage to Miss Fanny Fellows, who was born August 15, 1812, in Massachusetts, as were her parents, Joseph and Lydia Fellows. He continued to follow his trade till after he was thirty years old, when he was compelled to abandon it on account of ill health. He then began the study of medicine with Dr. Welles, and after two years of study commenced to practice. In 1853 he located at Wyanet, Illinois, where he remained three years. Thence he removed to Dodge county, this state, where he took up government land in Ashland township. This he sold in 1862 and bought a farm in Kalmar township, where he took up his residence for three years. In 1865 he sold his farm and settled in Byron, where he built the hotel at present occupied by his son, and kept it eight years. Up to this time he rode over a tract of country forty by fifty miles, having a large and successful practice. In one year he lost only two



out of over 700 cases under his care ; of these one was diphtheria, and the other cerebro-spinal meningitis. Though past seventy-five years of age, he rides long distances to attend patients, and is busy every day. Dr. and Mrs. Kendall are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and he is an ardent republican. Five of their children grew to maturity, and both his sons served the country during the war of the rebellion. Their names and births are recorded as follows: John V., born June 17, 1837, married Emily E. Farrington and resides at Dodge Center; Joseph B., sketched below; Aurilla, February 10, 1842, married E. H. Stevens and resides at St. Paul; Adeline L., April 29, 1847, married Arthur Ecker, died at Chatfield, August 5, 1881; Mary E., June 3, 1851, married George Dearborn and resides at St. Paul.

JOSEPH B. KENDALL, merchant, son of above, was born in Canton, Bradford county, Pennsylvania, April 13, 1838. When 12 years of age his father located at Salona, where he attended an academy. He was but eighteen years old when he came with his father to this state. On May 13, 1861, he enlisted in the 5th Wis. Inf., and served in the army of the Potomac until the battle of Chancellorsville, where he was wounded in the thigh by a gunshot and rendered unfit for further service, a resection of five inches of the bone being the result. He now walks without any assistance and his case is said to be one of the most remarkable ever known. He participated in numerous hard-fought battles, among which were those of Yorktown, Fair Oaks, Fredericksburg, Chickahominy, Antietam, Second Bull Run, siege of Fort Magruder, etc. As soon as he was recovered from his wound he was appointed a clerk in the quartermaster-general's office at Washington, where he served four years. For two years of this time he attended an evening commercial and grammar school, thus fitting himself for a commercial career. During Andrew Johnson's administration he was discharged from the war department with many others. In September, 1868, he opened a general store at Byron and has conducted it ever since, being singularly successful, inasmuch as he had never had anything to do with mercantile business till he began this. After his return here he was reinstated in the war department, but declined to leave his business to accept the position. It is probably unnecessary to say that Mr. K. is an ardent republican. He has been justice of the peace and notary public for the past twelve years; was elected town clerk in 1870-1; has been postmaster since 1877.

He was married July 21, 1879, to Isabella Kelly, who was born in Lake Village, New Hampshire; her father was Charles R. Kelly, a New Englander of Irish descent. They have a pair of twin daughters, born July 29, 1883.

REV. DAVID L. KING is one of the pioneers and developers of Kalmar, both in material and spiritual affairs. His parents, Marinus and Elizabeth King, were natives of Pennsylvania, and he was born in Mahoning, Mercer county, that state, October 31, 1816. Mr. King was reared on a farm, attending the common school till seventeen years old. Since eighteen he has cared for himself; by teaching school he was enabled to attend Mercer academy and a term of instruction in Allegheny College at Meadville. On March 24, 1834, he embraced religion during a protracted meeting held by the Methodists at Newcastle, and at once became a member of that denomination. On November 12, 1839, he was licensed to exhort, and May 7, 1845, as a preacher. He removed to Illinois in the fall of 1840, and was ordained a deacon by Bishop Hamlin at Bloomington, September 22, 1850. Up to this time he had been employed principally as a school teacher. He has never taken a circuit, but has been employed as a local preacher and in completing unfinished work of others. He has officiated at a very large number of funerals and marriages. The first funeral sermon in the town was preached by him. He was the Methodist who delivered a sermon in Rochester and made the first appointment announced by any minister in the county. This was for the last Sunday in October, 1854, but an attack of cholera morbus prevented his filling the engagement. The meeting was set at Head's hotel, and he did preach in Crabb's house on the same claim in September, 1855. His ordination papers were the first filed in the county. Mr. King also made the first appointment for religious services at Mantorville, Dodge county, the date being August 11, 1856. While going for a pail of water on that morning he was bitten by a rattlesnake, and thus prevented from fulfilling the appointment. Mr. King was married at Butler's Point, Illinois, August 11, 1844, to Mary J. Whitecomb, whose parentage is given with that of her brother's below. Mr. King dwelt on a farm in Illinois and secured the establishment in 1847 of Padua postoffice, of which he had charge several years. In 1854 he sold his property there and went to Jackson county, Iowa, where he spent the following winter with his family. In August of this year he visited Kalmar and made claim to the

land on which he still resides, on section 17. The next May he brought his family here, arriving on the 21st. Mr. King was a democrat until the passage of the Fugitive Slave law, which he could not brook, and has ever since been a republican. He was a delegate to the convention which framed our state constitution, and elected a member of the first legislature. Previous to this time he was appointed by the county commissioners as one of the judges of the first election in Kalmar precinct; was chairman of the first board of supervisors in 1858, and for three successive years following; has been town treasurer two terms, and twice chosen justice of the peace. On March 4, 1875, he was robbed by death of his faithful helpmeet. She was the mother of ten children, of whom five are now living, as follows: William Evans, born September 28, 1847, graduated at Evanston University, now a Methodist Episcopal preacher at Virginia City, Montana, having married Jennie Alsip; Annie L., July 8, 1850, married Robert C. Bitner, resides on section 27; Airy A., October 24, 1852, lives in Clay county, Iowa, with her husband, Renssalaer Brown; Ruth E., July 24, 1855, married Alfred C. Waldron, home in Spencer, Iowa; David F., September 22, 1859, now at school at Evanston, Illinois. The eldest child, Elizabeth J., died in her twentieth year. Mary L. died at seventeen, and three died in infancy.

WILLIAM JOHNSTON, farmer, was born in Moorhouse, Cumberland county, England, August 29, 1841. When he was eight years old his parents crossed the ocean and settled in Cortland county, New York, removing two years later to Elgin, Illinois. In 1856 his father, John Johnston, removed with his entire family to Kalmar, where three of his sons and his widow still reside. The subject of this sketch has 320 acres of land on sections 22 and 23, residing on the latter in a fine mansion erected in 1874. Three years previous he built one of the largest and finest barns in the town. His buildings stand on an eminence commanding a fine view of the country, no mean or inconsiderable portion of which is his own domain. Mr. Johnston was married February 24, 1869, to Mary Jackson, who was born in 1839, in the same county as himself. He was confirmed in the Episcopal church, to which he still gives allegiance. In political contests he votes the democratic ticket. He has never sought or accepted offices, his only public service being as clerk of his school district for the past five years. Four children have been added to his family, as follows: J. Clarence, January 27, 1871;

Cora Belle, August 30, 1872; William, October 7, 1874; Jenny Eleanor, June 3, 1877.

MASON HICKS, farmer, was born in Ontario county, New York, December 28, 1831. His father, Elias Hicks, was born in Massachusetts, and married Eliza Wetherspoon, of Vermont. Elias Hicks was one of the pioneer settlers of Walworth county, Wisconsin, where he located in 1836, removing his family thither the next year. Mason Hicks was reared on a farm in LaFayette township, receiving the benefit of the common schools. In 1856 he came with his brother to this county, and they purchased a quarter-section lying in Salem township, in partnership. Two years later he sold out to his brother and bought one-fourth of section 33, Kalmar, on which he now dwells. He was married June 25, 1865, to Sarah Wiltse, who was born near London, Canada; her parents, Jacob and Eleanor Wiltse, were natives of Michigan. Mrs. Hicks is a member of Byron Baptist church, and her husband is a Universalist. In politics Mr. H. has always been a democrat. The family includes six children, whose births date as below: Isola, April 1, 1866; George, December 22, 1869; Mary, May 22, 1874; Adelbert, December 2, 1877; Lillie, February 27, 1878; Edward, March 7, 1882.

WILLIAM GRAHAM, farmer, is the eldest son of Joseph and Jane Graham, who emigrated from Cumberland county, England, to the United States in 1844, and settled in Truxton, Cortland county, New York. Here was born the subject of this sketch on July 13, 1848. He came to Kalmar with his parents in 1856, and was reared on the farm here. Most of his education was received in the common school, being finished by a term at the select school of Prof. Spring, in Rochester. He was town clerk in 1875, and now fills that position, being elected in the spring of 1883. Like his father, he is a democrat and an Episcopalian. In 1871 Mr. Graham began work in the Star cheese factory at Olmsted station, and has spent ten years making cheese, being three years in charge of the factory at Byron. During the year beginning with the fall of 1879 he bought wheat for Van Dusen & Co., at their warehouse at Olmsted. In 1880 he settled on his father's farm, on section 25, where he now resides. The farm embraces four hundred acres, and is largely devoted to stock-raising. On May 13, 1873, Mr. Graham was united in marriage to Miss Grace Morrow, who was born in Boston, Massachusetts, May 21, 1854; her parents, William and



Letitia Morrow, were natives of England. Mr. and Mrs. Graham are the parents of four children, given to them as follows: Musetta, March 4, 1874; Joseph, July 29, 1875; Mary E., October 23, 1879; Albert, November 13, 1882.

HENRY KALB, city marshal, was born in Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, Germany, February 2, 1833. In 1854 he was married to Miss Frederica Roediger. In the same year he came to America and located at Dixon, Illinois. In the spring of 1856 he came to Olmsted county and started a boot and shoe shop, having previously learned the business. In 1864 he sold out, and turned his attention to farming for two years. From 1866 until 1871 he was employed as clerk in a boot and shoe store. In the spring of 1877 he was elected city marshal, and is still acting in that capacity. He has a family of eight children, whose names are as follows: Amelia V., Louis, Henry E., Amanda, Frederica, Edward, Carl and George.

TIMOTHY H. BLISS, real-estate dealer, of the firm of Bliss Bros., was born in Licking county, Ohio, June 2, 1843. In the fall of 1854 the family emigrated to Cedar county, Iowa, remaining about eighteen months. Thence to Johnston county, Iowa, where they remained until 1856, when they came to Olmsted county, locating six miles from Chatfield, in Orion Township. The subject of this sketch enlisted August 13, 1862, in Co. H., 6th Minn., serving about three years in the army. During most of that time he did detached duty at Fort Snelling. After his return he came to Rochester and worked for some time in the register's office. In 1877 he and his brother formed a partnership and engaged in the real-estate, loan and insurance business. He was married in 1867, to Miss Alice M. Higbee, a native of New York State. Alma F. and Winnefred M. are the names of their children.

CHARLES H. BLISS was also born in Licking county, Ohio, in 1848, and came west with the family. In 1874 he was made cashier of the Rochester National Bank, in which capacity he acted until he and his brother embarked in business together. He was married April 3, 1873, to Miss Frances L. Hayes, also a native of Ohio. Francenia A. and an infant daughter are their only children.

LOWEL BLISS, father of Timothy and Charles, was born in Essex county, Vermont, in 1814, and was one of the pioneer settlers of Licking county, Ohio. After coming to Olmsted county he was for five consecutive terms register of deeds, and was also mayor of Rochester two terms. His wife's maiden name was Fannie B. Gunn.

She was a native of Massachusetts. The old gentleman died December 17, 1872, of apoplexy.

WILLIAM R. RICE, farmer, of Rochester, was born in Genesee county, New York, May 14, 1809. His father, William Rice, was born in Massachusetts and came to New York at an early day. When our subject was quite young the family emigrated to Indiana, where they remained twelve years; thence to Will county, Illinois, where they remained until 1856, when they came to Olmsted county and located in Cascade township. Mr. Rice farmed until 1875, when, on account of failing strength, he removed to Rochester. He was married in 1832, and the aged couple celebrated their golden wedding in 1881. The names of their children are as follows: Leonard (deceased), Jane Catharine, William C. (now a Methodist minister), Elizabeth, Albert (deceased), Alvin Wesley, Wilbur and Nettie W. Albert enlisted in the service of his country at the outbreak of the war, and died from diseases contracted in the army.

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## CHAPTER XXIV.

### BIOGRAPHICAL—CONTINUED.

#### EARLY SETTLERS.

HAROLD J. BUTTLES, proprietor of planing-mills, was born in Warren county, New York, June 14, 1830. In 1854 he went to Alamakee county, Iowa, where he remained two years, when he came to Olmsted county, locating at Oronoco, where he worked at his trade (carpentering) three years, after which he embarked in the grocery business, which he continued three years, during which time he was postmaster. He then went to Plainview, where he resided for some time. In 1864 he came to Rochester and started a planing-mill. Mr. Buttles was married in 1852, to Miss Mary A. Herrick, a native of Saratoga county, New York. The names of their children are as follows: Emma, wife of C. S. Wedge, of Rochester, Minnesota; Helonease, Sue and Douglas. They are members of the Universalist church.

ELEAZAR DAMON, jewelry merchant, was born in Hampshire county, Massachusetts, February 3, 1830. His ancestry were Amer-

ican born, so far as can be traced. His grandfather on the mother's side was a soldier in the war of 1812. Our subject received a common school and academical education, after which he turned his attention to the jewelry business. He came to Rochester in 1856 and erected a small store out of lumber made of logs he had cut, and opened business in a small way. The date and circumstances connected with his location in Rochester entitle his name to a place among those of her pioneer business men. Since that time his success has been steady and permanent. Mr. Damon was married August 2, 1854, to Miss Caroline M. Warner, also a native of Massachusetts. Emma E. (deceased) and Hattie M. are the names of their children. Mr. Damon is a member of the Congregational church, and is also president of the board of trade.

JAMES N. COE, real estate dealer, was born in the town of Norway, Herkimer county, New York, April 3, 1822. In 1847 he went to Ohio and was engaged in the mercantile business in Orangeville, Trumbull county, until 1856, when he closed out his business and came west on a prospecting tour. Being favorably impressed with the great natural resources of Minnesota, he selected Rochester as a stopping place and here engaged in the real-estate business. In 1861 he returned to Herkimer county and took charge of the financial affairs of his deceased father, and did not return to Rochester until 1866. In 1876 he was elected chairman of the county commissioners, and still acts in that capacity. Mr. Coe is a man of financial shrewdness and good executive ability, and has been very successful in his dealings and speculations. It is also due him to say that he is highly respected by a large circle of friends.

JOHN E. CRANE, saddler, Rochester, was the sixth child of John and Susan B. (Poland) Crane, and was born July 25, 1821, at Greensboro, Vermont. He attended the Craftsburg academy and worked upon the farm of his father until he was twenty-one years old, when he worked for two years in the lumber business at Winchendon, Massachusetts. In June, 1843, he opened a harness-shop at Three Rivers, and was married November 17, 1844, to Miss Adeline V. Walker, by whom he has had three children, one alone living at the present writing. In 1856, in company with eight others, he came to this city, there being but three or four houses here at that time. Where the city now stands he hunted prairie-chickens, killing six at one shot; it being in November, they were bunched and flew together. William D. Lowrie kindly offered him a lot and took him

to near where the postoffice now stands and offered to give him a deed if he would erect a harness-shop. Being favorably impressed with Olmsted county he returned to Massachusetts, intending to sell his real estate and return, but it was not until 1870 that he stepped from the cars to take up his residence in the county. In 1860 he was elected assessor of the town of Palmer and held that position for three years, when he was made selectman and served a number of years. Afterward he acted as deputy-sheriff of Hampden county. Since coming to Minnesota he has engaged in the harness and saddle business. He is a member of the First Methodist Episcopal church, filling the office of trustee. He is also a member of the Masonic and Odd-fellows fraternities. When a young man he joined the first artillery company organized in the state and was elected sergeant. The gun was a brass piece captured from the British at the battle of Plattsburgh, in 1812, and shot a ten-pound ball.

WILLIAM C. KENT, of Rochester, retired farmer, was born in the town of Montrose, Scotland, in 1810. He came to America in 1827, locating in Troy, New York. At the end of one year he returned to Scotland, remaining five years, after which he again came to America and located in Connecticut with his father, who died there in 1847. In 1856 he came to Minnesota and located in Rochester township, and was the first justice elected in the precinct. He was married in 1830; his first wife died in 1866, and he was again married in 1868, to Mrs. Margaret Moffat, also a native of Scotland. Margaret, Isabella, John, Mary A. and Willie are the names of their living children. His son John, being in New York State at the outbreak of the rebellion, enlisted in the 1st N. Y. Cav., serving three years in the army.

THOMAS IRELAND, contractor, was born in Rensselaer county, New York, in July, 1815. When quite young he commenced learning bricklaying. He came to Rochester in 1856. He and his son Mortimer laid the first brick in the city. Our subject has had charge of the mason-work on many of the large buildings in Rochester. During the summer of 1881 he worked in Minneapolis. He was married November 14, 1837, to Miss Caroline E. Cross, a native of New York. Mortimer H., Eveline E., Verne S. and Charles F. are the names of their children. Mortimer spent three years in the service of his country. He enlisted August 17, 1862, in Co. H, 6th Minn. Inf. Charles served four years in Co. K, 3d Minn. Inf., the date of his enlistment being June, 1861.



CHARLES DURAND was born in Loraine county, Ohio, in 1822. In the spring of 1855 he emigrated with his family to Lee county, Illinois, thence to Dane county, Wisconsin, in 1856, and in the fall of the same year to Rochester. In 1862 he enlisted in the 1st Minn. Inf., and spent fifteen months in the capacity of a musician. At the end of that time he was made clerk of the commissary department, where he served until the close of the war. He was married in 1840, to Miss Julia A. Kellog, a native of New York. Marcia (now the wife of A. D. Robinson, of Rochester), George and Florence are the names of their children. The latter named daughter is the wife of T. J. Dansingburg, of Clairmont. George is assistant postmaster at Rochester, having served in that capacity since 1879.

ROZELL FREEMAN, farmer, was born in Herkimer county, New York, in 1815. When fifteen years of age he was apprenticed to a blacksmith at Booneville, Oneida county, where he served six years. He then went to New Haven, Connecticut, and worked one year. In 1855 he came west and located in Wisconsin. In 1856 he came to Olmsted county, locating on section 16, Cascade township. The log cabin which first sheltered his family still stands near his present residence. He was married in 1843, to Miss Eliza Carpenter, who died in 1845. He was again married in 1847, to Miss Lucinda Cook. The names of his children in the order of their ages are as follows: Samuel D. (who was a member of the 6th Minn. reg. and who died in the army); Sidney C. (deceased); Rozella (now the wife of D. Peirce, of Spring Valley) and Hibbard A.

LEVI B. JOSLYN, farmer, was born in Buffalo, New York, April 13, 1832. His father was a grocer in that city. In 1855 the family emigrated to Illinois. Here our subject was for one year in the employ of the Illinois Central railroad. In 1856 he came to Olmsted county, locating on section 1, Cascade township. He is the present chairman of the board of supervisors of his township. He was married in 1861, to Miss Mary Walker, who died in 1870. He was again married in 1871, to Miss Mary Clark, a native of Pennsylvania. Frank S., Charles A., Emma G., George P. and Fred are the names of their children, the three former being by the first wife. Mr. Joslyn is a prominent member of the I.O.O.F. at Oronoco. He is a prosperous farmer and a model citizen.

REV. WILLIAM C. RICE, editor of Rochester "Post," was born in the town of Frankfort, Will county, Illinois, August 3, 1840. In 1856 his father's family came to Olmsted county. Until 1860 our

subject was engaged in teaching and farming alternately. In that year he entered Hamlin University, from which institution he graduated in 1864. He then joined the Minnesota Methodist Episcopal conference and entered upon his ministerial duties. Since that time he has been stationed at St. Charles, Plainview, Wabasha, Rochester and Red Wing. He acted one term in the capacity of presiding elder of the Rochester district. In the summer of 1881 he abandoned his ministerial labors on account of poor health, and in May, 1883, took charge of the editorial department of the Rochester "Post." Being a man of fine ability and having been long identified with the state, we predict for him a brilliant success in his editorial career. Much of his time and attention has been devoted to agricultural interests, and he is now secretary of the Minnesota Butter and Cheese Association. He has also been a trustee of the Hamlin University for fifteen years. He was married in 1863, to Miss Emma Ebberman, a native of Illinois. The names of the children blessing the union are Helen, Edna, Flora and Albert.

NORTON C. YOUNGLOVE, grocer, was born in Steuben county, New York, April 27, 1834. He received his education at Prattsburg academy. When nineteen years of age he came west and located in Davenport, Iowa, where he clerked two years in a drygoods store. In 1856 he came to Rochester and was for a number of years in the employ of John R. Cook. In 1863 he embarked in the grocery business, in which he has since been engaged. He was married in 1859, to Miss Sarah E. Mapes, daughter of E. Mapes, who was at that time register of deeds. Edward A., Albert N. and Fred P. are the names of their children. He and Mrs. Younglove are members of the Baptist church.

PATRICK NORTON, hotelkeeper, was born in Dublin, Ireland, in 1835. When sixteen years of age he came to America and located in Salem, Massachusetts, remaining six months; thence to Madison, Wisconsin, where he remained two years. In 1856 he came to Rochester and was employed as clerk in the "York State House." In 1859 he began learning the blacksmith trade, which he followed twelve years. In 1871 he erected the hotel now known as the Norton House, which he has since conducted. He was married in 1864, to Miss Ellen Woods, a native of Canada. John, Mary, Josie and Frank are their children's names.

HENRY R. HYMES, implement dealer, Rochester, was born in Napierville, Du Page county, Illinois, September 27, 1848. In 1856

the family came to Minnesota, locating on a farm six miles east of Rochester. In 1870 our subject came to Rochester and engaged in the agricultural implement business, and being a live, energetic business man, success has attended him. Mr. Hymes was married in 1871, to Miss Bell M. Blethen, a native of Maine. Both attend the Congregational church.

JOSEPH H. WAGONER, organ and piano dealer, was born in Bradford county, Pennsylvania, in 1844. When he was twelve years of age his father's family came to Olmsted county, pre-empting land in what is now Haverhill township. Our subject received his education in Rochester, and later engaged in the pump and well-drilling business. In 1862 he enlisted in Co. I, 5th Minn. Inf., serving nine months, when he was discharged on account of disabilities. In 1868 he commenced dealing in organs, pianos and sewing machines. He was married in the same year to Miss Emma G. Aldrich, a native of Wisconsin. Myra, Carrol and Roy are the names of their children. Mr. Wagoner is a member of the I.O.O.F.

GEORGE F. SEILOR, farmer, was born in Prussia, December 1, 1823. He came to America in 1847, locating first in New York. In the spring of 1856 he came to Minnesota and located on section 9, Cascade township. He was married in 1849, to Miss Clara Hines, a native of Germany, who died in 1874. He is a member of the German Methodist church at Rochester.

CHARLES H. CRANE, farmer, Cascade, is the fifth son of John and Susan B. Crane, and was born in Greensboro, Vermont, August 31, 1825. Subsequently his father's family removed to Lamoille county and located on a farm; his father also purchased a sawmill which he conducted in connection with his farm. Our subject was reared a farmer and follows the profession still. He was married March 28, 1847, to Miss Cynthia Thayer, a native of Hampden county. He came west in 1855, Iowa being his objective point, but after traveling through that state and Minnesota he decided to cast his lot in the latter. He located on section 7, in what is now known as Haverhill township.

HALVOR HALVORSEN STENSERND, born January 5, 1827, in Hallingdal, Norway, emigrated to the United States in the summer of 1853 and settled in the State of Illinois, from whence he moved to Rock Dell in April, 1855. When he came here there were but fourteen settlers in the town.

DAVID S. LARSEN was one of the earliest settlers of the town,

emigrating here from Wisconsin in the year 1856. He was born August 4, 1830, in Voss, Norway, and came to the United States in 1854.

AMUND NIELSEN GIERE was born in March, 1828, on the farm Giere, Hallingedal, Norway, and emigrated to this country in 1846, when he settled in Dane county, Wisconsin. He came to Rock Dell in 1856 and settled on section 15, where he still resides. Mr. Giere was one of the first settlers, but during the year a large number of new settlers came on. He was a member of the board of supervisors for two terms and is treasurer of school district No. 43, which he has been ever since the organization of the same, with the exception of the first two years, being mainly through his efforts that the said district was organized.

NIELS NIELSEN GIERE, ten years older, a brother of the above, came to the United States in 1845 and to Rock Dell in the month of May, 1854, being the first settler in this town. He was familiarly known as Niels Nielsen Giere, "the blacksmith." He was accompanied by Tollef Olson Guldberg, and built the first log shanty in the town, locating on the southwestern corner of section 11. They bought the land of the United States government and paid \$2 an acre for the same. Mr. Giere died in the year 1875.

JAMES FITZPATRICK, proprietor of Pierce House, Rochester, was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, in 1835; came to America in 1853, and to Winona in 1856, and in 1859 came to Olmsted county, locating in High Forest township, where he carried on a farm until 1872, when he removed to Rochester. In 1879 he opened the Peirce House, and since that time has been engaged in hotel keeping. He was married in 1858, to Miss Charlotte Omelue, who died in 1878. He was again married in 1880, to Miss Mary A. Condron. John, Mary, James and Frank are his children's names.

MATHEW FUGLE (deceased) was born in Baden, Germany, September 5, 1818. In 1839 he came to America, locating in New York State, thence to Illinois in 1845. He emigrated to Minnesota in 1856, locating in High Forest township. In 1871 he came to Pleasant Grove, and in that year erected the mill about a mile and a half northwest of the village. He was married in 1842, to Miss Christina Smith. Mary (deceased), Christina, Mathew (deceased), John, Kate (deceased), Joseph, Maggie, Eustean, Frederic. Lewis and Elizabeth are their children's names.

OLIVER POTTER, retired farmer, is a son of William E. Potter,



who emigrated from Connecticut to Erie county, Pennsylvania, settling in the town of Springfield when that region was a wilderness and taking an active part in the development of what is now a fruitful and handsome section. He married Electa Smith, a native of Pennsylvania, and remained on his Springfield farm till his death, rearing several sons, who in their turn became pioneers, being among the foremost and persevering toilers in that garden spot of Minnesota and Olmsted county, Eyota township. Two of them are elsewhere referred to in this work, which is embellished by a portrait of the elder. The subject of this sketch was born in Springfield, April 9, 1836. His early life did not materially differ from that of all farmers' sons in a new, timbered region. The educational advantages of that time and locality were very meager, and young Potter's time was mostly spent in the labors of the farm; he, however, contrived to secure an ordinary business education and became an active and useful member of the community wherein his lot has been cast. In the spring of 1855 he paid a visit to friends in Outagamie county, Wisconsin, and pushed on thence to the wilds of Minnesota. During the summer he took up 160 acres of land on section 32, Eyota, on which he made some improvements, and returned to Wisconsin. In the following fall he took up his residence on his claim, where he resided twenty-four years, and which he still owns. By subsequent purchase he acquired 160 acres more near the original farm, and this he also retains; no finer farms than these are to be found in Minnesota. In the fall of 1879 Mr. Potter purchased his present residence on South St. Charles street, in the city of St. Charles, and at once removed there. He was married in March, 1858, to Sophia, daughter of Ira Glazier and Maria Lee, all born in Erie, Pennsylvania, Mrs. Potter on August 28, 1839. Mr. Potter always took an active interest in the welfare of schools, and was always a member of the school board during his residence in Eyota. His children have had the benefit of the best schools in the community, and have improved their advantages. Their names are Cora A. and Addie E., born June 2, 1861, and July 1, 1865, respectively. Mr. Potter has had entire charge of the streets and their improvement in St. Charles the past two years, and has made a valuable officer, directing the work with judgment and skill. Although not a member of any church, he is a supporter of religion and a consistent observer of the golden rule. In politics he has

always been found on the side of the republican party, because he believed it embodied true national principles.

The subject of our sketch, JOHN R. COOK (deceased) was one of the oldest and best known of the residents of the county. Coming to the city of Rochester at an early day (1856), and actively engaging in business that brought him into close relations with very many of our citizens, the history of his life and character is well known throughout the county. A man of the strictest integrity, perfectly upright and honorable in all his business relations, he possessed the confidence of the community, and held a large place in their esteem. Mr. Cook was born at Clear Creek, Richland (now Ashland) county, Ohio, May 31, 1825. When twenty-four years of age he removed to the small town of Wolf Lake, Indiana, where he commenced business for himself by opening a store. By rigid economy and close attention to business he accumulated the surplus which became the nucleus of his ample fortune. With characteristic foresight he made some fortunate investments in farming lands at a time when others lost faith in their value. These lands were afterward converted into "Fort Wayne" railroad stock, which afterward appreciated quite largely in his hands. In 1856 he removed to Rochester and embarked in the dry goods, grocery and hardware business, and for several years was one of the leading business men as a merchant in southern Minnesota. In 1864, having sold out his mercantile interest, he became the prime mover in the organization of the First National Bank, of which he was the principal owner. From 1864 until his death he held the presidency of the bank, which from its commencement has had a very prosperous and successful business. In 1869 he erected the large hotel known as the Cook House, which cost about eighty thousand dollars. Mr. Cook was married in 1858, to Miss Frances Olm, a native of Onondaga county, New York. John R., Frances May, and June are the names of their children. September 9, 1880, after several years of feeble health, his busy life came to a close, and a large circle of friends was called upon to mourn the death of one whose life had been characterized by his strict honor and integrity, and who has left as a legacy not only a large worldly estate, but that which is far better and more worthy of emulation, a noble example and a spotless name.

HERBERT G. McCALEB is one of the most prominent and popular men of Marion township. He was born in Henry county, Indiana,

in September, 1831. When he was but one year old his father's family removed to Putnam county, Illinois. His father was originally from Rockbridge county, Virginia, and his mother was a native of Mason county, Kentucky. His father died in Putnam county in 1839. In April, 1850, they removed to La Salle county. In 1856 the subject of this sketch came to Olmsted county, locating on section 4, Pleasant Grove. In 1864 he removed to Marion, which has since been their home. He was married in 1856, to Miss Margery A. Hoover. Seth E., Ida A., Maria J., Persis L., Aurilla I., Kate E., Lulla J. and Cora E. are the names of their children. The family are members of the Christian church.

JOHN W. FULKERSON, one of the most highly respected men of his community, was born in Virginia, January 16, 1822. He was reared a farmer, but had the advantages of a common school education early in life and later. He went through the academy at Pine creek. When nineteen years of age he began preaching the gospel, for the first four years having charge of a congregation at Franklin, Virginia. He afterward preached in different parts of Maryland and Virginia alternately about twelve years. In 1855 he came west to Muscatine, Iowa, where he stopped nine months. In the fall of 1856 he came with his family to Olmsted county, locating in the village of Marion, having been sent as a missionary by the missionary board. For ten years his labors extended over a great part of southern Minnesota. He passed through New Ulm a few days previous to the Indian outbreak. In 1866 he located on a farm east of the village. In 1873 he was elected judge of probate, which position he held two terms. He was married January 1, 1848, to Delilah S. Snooks. Emma V., John J., Mary E., Luther G., Lillian A., Belle G. and George E. are the names of the children that have been born to them.

JOHN H. FAWCETT, merchant, was born in Henry county, Indiana, September 6, 1840. He received his education at the New Castle academy. He came to Minnesota in the fall of 1856, locating in Olmsted county, where for ten years he was engaged in farming. In 1866 he located in the village of Marion, where he has since carried on merchandising, and has done a prosperous business. He is also postmaster, having held the office seventeen years. Was married in 1867, to Miss Emily J. Wooldridge, a native of Clearfield county, Pennsylvania. Charles E., Arthur and Mertie are the names of the children born to them. The family are members of

the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Fawcett is a member of the A. F. and A. M. at Pleasant Grove, and also of the chapter and commandery at Rochester.

MATHEW STRACHAN was born in 1801, in Paisley, Scotland. He married, June 19, 1837, Euphemia Smith, of same place, born about 1808. This marriage was blessed with three children: Janetta, born June 28, 1838, died in 1840; James, February 26, 1840; Robert M., October 10, 1844. In 1840 our subject emigrated to New York, where he weaved in cotton and other mills. In 1850 he moved to Canada, and for a short time both farmed and worked at his trade as a weaver. In 1856 he moved with his family to the town of Elmira, Olmsted county, Minnesota, where he bought 160 acres of good farm land in sections 1, 2, 11 and 12, township 105, range 11. In 1866 he built a large frame house in which he resided till his demise in 1879. Mrs. Euphemia (Smith) Strachan died in 1881, leaving only James and Robert to mourn their loss. James is living in Wilkin county, and Robert is working the homestead farm. Robert attended the public school while in Canada and subsequently in Elmira. In 1865 he enlisted in the army, serving nine months, since which time he has resided on the homestead farm. He is a liberal in religion, and belongs to no party in politics, voting always for the best man.

SAMUAL B. EVANS, farmer, of Quincy, was born in Willoughby, Lake county, Ohio, in October, 1829. When he was six years of age the family went to Elkhart, Indiana. His father, Hervey E. Evans, was a blacksmith by trade. In 1854 our subject went to central Michigan and from thence to Olmsted county in 1856, locating on the northwest quarter of section 6, in Quincy township. His brother came the following spring, locating on the southwest quarter of the same section. He died from a disease contracted while in the service of his country, being a member of Co. H, 2d Minnesota regiment. Our subject was married in 1854, to Miss Frances S. Foster, also a native of Lake county, Ohio. The names of their children are as follows: Edgar (now near Brookings, D. T.), Wealthie (wife of George Hallenbeck, of Quincy), Homer and Earl. Our subject has always taken a prominent part in public affairs and has discharged his duties faithfully and well. He was for eight years chairman of the board of supervisors of Quincy township. He is one of Olmsted county's model farmers, also, as his dwelling and surroundings indicate.



NICHOLAS W. MURPHY, farmer, of Quincy, was born in Nelson county, Kentucky, April 9, 1818. When he was fifteen years of age the family removed to Lincoln county, Missouri, and from thence to Wisconsin in 1843, where our subject worked at his trade (carpentering) until May, 1856, when he came to Olmsted county, locating on the northeast quarter of section 6, Quincy township. He was married in 1845, to Miss Maria Ferrel. A large family of children have been born to them, whose names are as follows: Charles E., Catharine C., Frances L., Mary, Clarence C., Estella, Minnie G., William N., Jessie, Ella, Effie and Josie. Mr. Murphy is a member of the A. F. and A. M. at Plainview, and also of the Methodist Episcopal church.

MR. C. H. BIERBAUM was born at Wissingen, Hanover, Germany, August 12, 1830. Immigrated with his parents, John Henry and Katharina E. (Duvendack) Bierbaum, to Clayton county, Iowa, in 1847. While a young man he worked out and saved his earnings until he was able to form the partnership previously alluded to. April, 1856, he filed a pre-emption right on land he now owns, on section 35 in Viola, and erected a good log house in which he lived about ten years. June 12, 1857, he married Katharina M. Stickfort. At present he has a two-story frame house 26×42 feet with kitchen and wood-house 21×32 feet, one-story high, attached. He has one substantial granary, one double corn crib of the most approved style and a barn 40×60 feet, 16-foot posts with 8-foot basement of stone. He has given a great deal of attention to the cultivation of hedges and fruit trees. He owns nine forties of rich soil with a gently undulating surface. He is the father of nine children: Maria E., John C., Herman H., Anna K. E., Maria K., Christina E. W., Katharina S., Carolina L. and Emma A. Mr. Bierbaum has always remembered the Sabbath day to keep it holy, is loved by his family, respected by his neighbors, and withal he is a man to whom Viola points with pride as her first settler and one of the first in Olmsted county.

REV. CALEB SAWYER was born in Swanzey, New Hampshire, in October, 1806. He settled on section 8 in Viola, in 1856. By profession he was a Baptist minister, but was not engaged much as a preacher while in Minnesota. During the war he was looked upon as the father of the town and was commonly called "Father Sawyer" or "Squire Sawyer." He was elected representative to the state legislature in 1867-8, and was the most prominent political

man of the town until 1872, when poor health prevented further participation in public affairs. He married Hannah Olcott, of Swansey, New Hampshire, in 1829. He was a sufferer from asthma nearly all his life, and died March 14, 1881. His devoted wife and worthy sons, Caleb A. and M. L. Sawyer, survive him. The old homestead remains in the family and together with large acquisitions of land belonging to these sons and J. A. Sawyer, a nephew of Rev. C. who was brought up by him, constitute what is known as the Sawyer valley.

DAVID F. MACK was born in East Haddam, Connecticut, March 23, 1827. During the early part of his life he traveled about the United States a good deal, making one trip to California. He settled in Viola on the southeast quarter of section 18, in 1856. His integrity and devotion to what he believes to be right are proverbial. He married Libbie J. Coon January 6, 1861, and they have seven children: George O., Alice J., Charles L., Eva E., Sylvia E., Kate P. and Nettie M.

JOHN MORROW, Esq., son of John and Priscilla (Martin) Morrow, was born in Serville, Perry county, Pennsylvania, September 6, 1820. While young he removed with his parents to Ohio, where he married Sarah J. Hill, April 26, 1849. In the autumn of 1856 he brought his family to Minnesota and "filed" on the place he now owns. When eighteen years of age he learned the house-carpenter's trade and followed it until he came to Minnesota, since which time he has been engaged in farming. His father was a weaver and died in 1862 at the age of seventy-five years. At a territorial election in the fall of 1857 he was elected justice of the peace and acted as such for about thirteen years. He was assistant superintendent of the first Sunday school organized in Viola; has been supervisor, and was elected assessor in 1882. He is the father of four children: James B., Samantha H., Marcella J. and Robert J. R. James is an industrious farmer and Marcella is the wife of P. J. McDonald, one of Olmsted county's successful school teachers. The esteem in which Esquire Morrow is held by his townsmen may be inferred from their keeping him almost continually in important offices. In politics he is not a strict party man, but votes for the most worthy nominees regardless of party affiliations.

ERVEN H. STUCKMAN, farmer. John Stuckman, of German descent, was born in Maryland and moved to Pennsylvania, where was born to him a son,—father of this subject,—whom he christened Da-

vid. The latter, on reaching manhood, married Ann Walker, also a native of Pennsylvania, and lived for a time at Connellsville, Fayette county, in that state. Here Erven H. Stuckman was born February 12, 1824. When he was but six weeks old his parents removed to Columbiana county, Ohio. This region was then covered with heavy timber and a hard struggle on the part of David Stuckman to subdue the wilderness began. After fourteen years of hardship and toil he was called to his eternal rest. Upon Erven, the eldest child, then fell a heavy responsibility in caring for his widowed mother and her little ones. This he did not shirk, and he remained at home till he was twenty-four years old. After spending two years as a laborer in Indiana and Iowa he set out in July, 1853, for California, where he remained nearly two years, and returned to Ohio. He again set his face westward in the fall of 1855, and arrived in Pleasant Grove, this county, in November. The next spring he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 23 in that town, where he resided nine years. During the first winter of his residence in Minnesota he bought land, but sold it in a short time. After spending a year in Iowa he bought a farm in May, 1866, in the village of Pleasant Grove, on which he lived eight years. In 1874 he bought his present home in Orion, where he has one hundred and sixty acres of land on sections 4 and 5. He was married July 4, 1860, to Sarah A. Ross. She was born in Charlotteville, Canada, May 30, 1844; her father—Francis A. Ross—was born on the Atlantic ocean, of Scotch parentage, and her mother—Susannah Decou—was of Canadian birth. Mr. Stuckman has always been a hard worker, and is still doing most of his farmwork alone. He now has something to show for his industry, and is happily situated on a fine farm property. He never took much part in public affairs, although he has served as town supervisor four years; his political allegiance has always been paid to the republican party. In religious faith he is somewhat independent, but sympathizes closely with the Methodist Episcopal church, as does also Mrs. Stuckman. They have five children, all living at home, born as follows: Elma S., September 8, 1861; Ira W., December 21, 1863; Lily M., January 25, 1865; Hervey E., October 18, 1868; Francis R., June 11, 1879.

CHARLES W. CRESAP, implement dealer, was born in Coshocton county, Ohio, in 1835. When quite young he learned the blacksmith trade with his father. He came to Olmsted county in 1856, locating at Pleasant Grove, and in the spring of 1858 went to

Marion, where he remained until 1866, when he came to Eyota. In 1878 he was made enrolling clerk in the senate and served in that capacity during the session of 1878-9. For many years he has taken a prominent part in the political affairs of the county and state. He was married in 1860, and again in 1870, the name of his second wife being Miss Angelia L. Wood. Mark W. and Mabel L. are the names of their children, aged respectively eight and ten years.

WILLIAM ECKLES, of Eyota, farmer, was born in Yorkshire, England, in 1822. He came to this country in 1850 and proceeded to Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, where he remained until the year 1856, from whence he went direct to Eyota township and settled on section 24 and entered a claim for 160 acres. On this claim Mr. Eckles resides to the present day. In moving from Wisconsin to Minnesota in 1856, the whole distance—240 miles—was traveled by wagon. The occupation of Mr. Eckles until the year 1850 was shoemaking, at which time he turned his attention to farming, and this latter occupation he has followed successfully ever since. The first year Mr. Eckles was in this county he was compelled to go as far as Decorah, Iowa, for provisions, that being the nearest place at which they then could be obtained. Mr. Eckles has been one of the town supervisors for seven years.

G. G. BUCK is the son of Stickney and Maria Buck, and was born in New Hampshire in 1841. He lived there until 1854, when he removed to Dodge county, Wisconsin, with his parents, where he lived until 1856, when the family, including our subject, moved to Eyota, Minnesota. He received his early education in New Hampshire. Farming has always been Mr. Buck's occupation; in fact it might be said that he was brought up to it from childhood's early hour. In 1866 he was joined in matrimony to Adda Glidden, of Eyota, and the union has been blessed with two children, namely, Winfield and Delton. Mr. Buck holds the office of town clerk, to which he was first elected in 1880. He was in the military service of the United States for nine months during the late war, serving as a musician. In 1865 Mr. Buck received his honorable discharge from the service.

WILLIAM BUSIAN was born in Prussia in the year 1830 and came to this country in 1852. In the year 1856 he settled in the town of Eyota in this county and pre-empted the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 28 where he now lives and is engaged in farming. When Mr. Busian first came



to Eyota he pursued his trade of carpenter, in which he continued until the year 1862, when he turned his attention to farming. At the time he located in the township the nearest postoffice to his homestead was Marion and the nearest market was Winona. In 1864 Mr. Busian was married to Emma Hurning, of High Forest. The union has been blessed with two children, Zella and Paul. Mr. Busian is at present treasurer of the town.

J. H. BLISS was born in Rutland county, Vermont, in the year 1824, and went west to Wisconsin in 1848, where he remained until the year 1851, when he returned eastward to New York, and while there was married to Addeline Denning, of New York. After his marriage Mr. Bliss first settled in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, remaining there until the month of March, 1856, when he removed all his worldly effects into Minnesota by wagon with an ox team, the distance being 240 miles. Arriving at his destination Mr. Bliss located on the S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 25 of Eyota township. Mr. Bliss is the proud father of three children, all of whom are daughters. He has held the following political offices: assessor of the town for four years, president of the council in the village of Eyota, and chairman of the town in 1863. Mr. Bliss also collected the first taxes levied in the town.

GEORGE ECKLES, engineer, was born in Yorkshire, England. In the fall of 1856 he landed in America and came west to Minnesota, locating on section 24, Eyota township. For six years after coming he worked on a farm at thirteen dollars per month. In 1878 he commenced work for Van Dusen & Co. in the capacity of engineer and grain inspector. He was married in 1862, to Miss Emma Glidden, a native of Steuben county, New York. Ernest, Nettie and Louis are the names of their children. Mr. Eckles was one of the first Masons in the village, and was one of the charter members of the Eyota lodge A. F. and A. M.

JOHN POTTER, deceased. Among those who made a beginning in the new region known as Minnesota, but failed to enjoy the fruits of their enterprise, was the subject of this brief and unworthy sketch. Consumption's cruel fangs were closed upon him, and he did not settle in our health-giving climate soon enough to escape its fatal contact. John Potter was the son of William E. Potter, who emigrated from his native Connecticut to Pennsylvania, where he married one of that state's fair daughters,—Miss Electa Smith,—and settled in Springfield, Erie county, engaging in farming. Our sub-



yours Truly.  
D. A. Morrison.



ject was born here August 9, 1830. He was reared on the farm, receiving a common school training for his intellect. On attaining his majority, he went into the adjoining state of Ohio, where he took a course in the art of writing under one of the Spencers, since so famous for founding a system of penmanship. After perfecting himself in the art, he engaged in teaching it to others. March 29, 1855, he was married to Rumina, daughter of William and Rhoda Ellis, who had emigrated to Pennsylvania from Franklin county, Massachusetts. In the spring of the following year Mr. Potter came to Eyota and pre-empted 160 acres of land on section 32, and brought his wife here in the fall of the same year. The following winter he conducted a series of writing schools. He very soon began to yield to the insidious disease which was destroying his strength, and after a confinement of over a year to the house, passed away January 14, 1859. One child, christened Gilbert Ellis, survives to inherit and manage the homestead secured by this deceased pioneer. After her husband's death Mrs. Potter returned with her infant boy—who was one year old on the day of his father's demise—to her childhood's home, and remained there twelve years. She was again married in May, 1877, to Frances E. Owen, of Michigan, and resides in the village of Eyota, with both husband and son; the former pursuing his calling of house-builder and the latter engaged in the hardware and machinery trade. To the original homestead has been added forty acres of timber in the town of Orion, and it is now one of the finest and best tilled farms in Eyota.

DANIEL K. BRANNAN, farmer, is the son of Thomas and Margaret Brennan, and was born in Butler county, Ohio, in the year 1840. His father departed this life the same year. In 1847 the widowed mother moved with her young boy into the State of Indiana, where during the year 1849 she took to herself another husband in the person of George Plank. The family remained in Indiana until the year 1856, when they removed to Eyota, Minnesota; young Daniel, then sixteen years of age, accompanying them, and afterward residing with them for the space of about three years, when he contracted matrimony with Catharine Plank, of Eyota, who passed away from this earth in 1873. In 1874 Mr. Brannan married Martha Walters, of Eyota. He has had seven children in all—five by the first wife and two by the second. Mr. Brannan is a member of the Lutheran church.



JOHN M. WEAGANT, farmer, Quincy township, was born in Canada West, February 8, 1828. In 1856 he came to Olmsted county, locating on the southeast quarter of section 6, Quincy township. He was married in April, 1861, to Miss Zilpha Cook, a native of Vermont. Their children are named as follows: Galen K., Mary A., William H., Arthur C., Charles C., Harry H. and Andrew J. He is a member of the Christian church. His father, John Weagant, was also born in Canada, January 1, 1800. His son, William H., enlisted, in 1861, in Co. H, 2d Minn. Inf., and was killed at Chickamauga.

ROLLIN A. CASE, of Chatfield, real-estate agent, was born in Berks, Vermont, in August, 1855. The family came to Minnesota in 1856 and located on a farm in Orion township. In 1868 he entered the law office of J. S. Sawyer, and in 1875 succeeded his employer in business. Mr. Case was married in 1876, to Miss Jennie Whitney, a native of Olmsted county. Lilian (deceased), Eva and William are the children resulting from the union. In the fall of 1882 he was the republican candidate for probate judge, but was defeated by a small majority.

OLE SEEVERTS SATTRE, farmer, was born in Norway in 1827, and is the son of Seever M. Sattre. In 1844 he emigrated to America with his parents, and in the spring of 1845 went with an ox-team from Chicago to Dane county, Wisconsin, where for four years he assisted his father on his farm. In 1850 he worked in the pineries, and in 1854 purchased 200 acres of land in Dane county, Wisconsin, for \$1,300, and sold it in 1856 for \$2,600. Then moved to Salem and pre-empted a claim of 160 acres in section 30, which he still owns. In 1868 he built a handsome frame dwelling-house beautifully situated in the center of a young orchard and surrounded by a windbreak of tall poplars. He has a splendid barn with stone basement, 102 feet long and 36 feet wide, with a small wing on the southeast end. This barn, if we except his brother Andrew's, is the largest and best built in this part of the country. He has also several small, well-built houses about the farm; also a windmill. His present farm now consists of 480 acres in sections 19 and 30, Salem, and section 10, Canestoe, Dodge county. In 1854 he married Miss Ingebor T. Gjesme, born in Norway, Christmas eve, 1831, daughter of Thorbjorn O. Gjesme, and by this marriage has had ten children. Mr. O. S. Sattre has been many times elected justice of the peace and supervisor. He is a republican in politics and a Lutheran in religion. His father and mother, both born in Nor-

way the same year, 1805, are living about 100 rods north of our subject's dwelling.

ANDREW SEEVERTS SATTRE, farmer, brother to O. S. Sattre, of the preceding sketch, was born in Norway, in 1837. Emigrated to America with his parents in 1844, landing in New York after a passage of ten weeks and three days, and spent two weeks on the passage from New York to Chicago. The whole family was taken sick between Buffalo and Chicago, and his mother was so ill on arrival at Chicago that she had to be carried from the boat to the hotel, where two of his sisters died. After eight months' sojourn in Chicago, Andrew with his parents went to Dane county, Wisconsin, at which time settlers were very scarce, and deer and Indians very plentiful. In 1856 Andrew again moved west with his parents to Salem, where he has since resided. His father (S. M. Sattre) pre-empted 160 acres in section 29, where he now resides, and subsequently bought 160 acres of timber land adjoining. Our subject lived with his parents till 1862, when he married Miss Mathea Johnson Engen, born in Norway in 1839, daughter of Ole Johnson Engen, and the same year bought 160 acres in Dodge county, which he sold and purchased 160 acres in Salem, in section 18, from Judge Waterman, of Winona, on which land the following year, 1863, he built a handsome frame house, in which he has since resided. He also built the largest barn in this part of the county, being 102 feet long by 48 feet wide and 20 feet high, above a fine stone basement. He has also good outbuildings, windmill, etc. Our subject by his own labor and ability has accumulated property to the amount of 740 acres of as fine farming land as can be found in the world. He has also some property in the village of Byron. In politics he is a republican. He has been elected supervisor, and is at present (1883) a justice of the peace and county commissioner. He is a member of the Lutheran church. His children are Julia, born in 1863, Sophia in 1870, and Otelie in 1879.

JAMES A. ELLISON, farmer, was born in Indiana, December 15, 1833, and is the son of Joseph and Prudence (Busby) Ellison. His father having died during his (James') infancy, he assisted his mother on the farm till 1855, when he moved to Minnesota, and in 1856 bought 160 acres of land in sections 2 and 3 of the town of Salem. In 1857 he built a large frame house and in the following year married Miss Helen A. Williams, daughter of Jeremiah and Sally Williams. He has been blessed with four children: Clara

D., born in 1861; Bertha D., 1864; George W., 1866; Francis W., 1868. Mr. Ellison, when only five years of age, was one day playing with a powder-flask near the open fireplace. The flask exploded and caused such serious injury to his hand and arm as to necessitate its amputation just below the elbow. Our subject is a republican and has held the town offices of supervisor, justice and constable, and has been county sheriff for six years from 1871 till 1877, during which time he resided at Rochester.

ALONZO W. HILL, M.D., Pleasant Grove, was born near Logansport, Indiana, December 7, 1851. When he was five years of age the family came to Minnesota, locating in Dodge county, and subsequently to Olmsted county, where our subject received his early education. In March, 1876, he graduated from the Ann Arbor Medical College and began practicing in Winona county. He came to Pleasant Grove in 1878. He was married in the same year to Miss Mattie D. Cox. Mabel I. is the name of their only child.

JAMES KELLY, blacksmith, Stewartville, was born in Allegheny county, New York, in 1852. He came west with his father's family in 1856. His father, Patrick Kelly, was one of the pioneers of the county, and located on section 25, High Forest township. Our subject farmed until twenty-one years of age, and then began blacksmithing at Rochester. He afterward came to Stewartville, and in 1880 began business for himself. He was married in 1879, to Miss Bridget Griffin.

WILLIAM KELLY, farmer, High Forest, was born in Oswego, July, 1837. His father's and mother's names were Jeremiah and Bridget respectively, and both were natives of Ireland. Our subject began "railroading" when but twelve years of age, and was in the employ of the Erie Railroad Company until 1856, when he and his brother Patrick came to Minnesota, locating on section 25, High Forest township. He was married in 1867, to Miss Margaret Lawler, a native of Ireland. William, Bridget C., George, James F., Jeremiah T. and Patrick J. are their children's names. The family are members of the Roman Catholic church.

GEORGE ATKINSON, deceased. The subject of this biography was a son of John and Nancy Atkinson, and was born in Yorkshire, England, September 22, 1822. At twenty-one years of age he emigrated to New Brunswick, settling at St. Johns, where he was married, September 6, 1844, to Mary, daughter of William and Mary Smith, natives of that province, of English descent. In

October, 1848, Mr. Atkinson became a resident of the United States. He lived eight years at Lockport, Illinois, and removed thence in April, 1856, to Oronoco, where he secured from the government one-fourth of section 13. The adjoining eighty acres on section 14 have since been added to the farm, so that his family is well provided for. George Atkinson enlisted in the defense of his adopted country, August 21, 1862, in Co. F, 9th M. V. I. The first serious engagement in which his regiment engaged was that of Guntown, and although Mr. Atkinson was sick at the time, he insisted on taking his part in the battle. The result was that he was captured and incarcerated in Andersonville prison, where he died from the effects of the privations inflicted in that horrible den August 16, 1864. Seven children were left, besides his widow, still living, to mourn his untimely death, one son having preceded him to the other shore. Here is the family record: William, born November 30, 1849, died October 19, 1849; John, born August 12, 1848 (who is now living in Dunn county, Wisconsin, where he married Belle Schofield, April 8, 1871); Robert, born May 26, 1849 (who married Hannah E. Schofield, sister of the above, November 7, 1873, and lives at Lake City); Edwin, born June 7, 1851 (who now operates the homestead farm); Sarah J., born April 30, 1853 (who was drowned in the Zumbro river, at Webster's Ford, April 8, 1869); Mary, born March 18, 1856 (who resides with her husband, Jasper Haines, to whom she was wedded January 12, 1880, at Big Stone, Minnesota); Charles T., born April 10, 1858, and Albert S., born December 14, 1860. Both the latter are at home. Mr. Atkinson was an adherent of republican principles, as are all his sons. Both himself and wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and Mrs. Atkinson is now known to her neighbors by the kindly appellation of "Aunt Mary."

SIMEON R. TERWILLIGER, capitalist, was born in Albany county, New York, on the old "Van Rensselaer Manor," on April 14, 1835. His father, Richard Terwilliger, was a descendant of the early Dutch settlers of that region, and lived to the age of eighty-seven years. His mother's maiden name was Hannah Wagner, of German descent, and now living. They removed when young Simeon was eight years old to Cayuga county, in the same state, and he received his education in the common schools there. In April, 1856, having reached his majority, young Terwilliger started out to make himself a home in Kansas. Stopping to visit with



friends a few days at Belvidere, Illinois, he there met a party just returning from Minnesota, and heard such glowing accounts of the territory that he resolved to journey thither, and arrived at Oronoco in May, with about \$100 in cash. Here he engaged in various laborious occupations, working on the mill and dam then in course of construction. In May, 1858, he engaged with T. C. Clay, as clerk in a store, and subsequently served Evans & Co., in the same capacity for two years. He was industrious and frugal, and loaned his earnings at interest, so that in 1860 he began to do a general real-estate, conveyancing and loan business, which he has ever since followed, and is considered the wealthiest citizen in the township. He was united in marriage October 24, 1862, to Calista A., daughter of Rev. Silas A. and Abigail Wing, of Marion, this county, natives of New York. They have one child, Lillian H. M., born July 27, 1863, and residing with her parents. Mr. Terwilliger is a member of Oronoco lodge No. 52, I.O.O.F. In politics he is a republican. He was assessor in 1861-2 and in 1867, and chairman of the town board in 1872-3-4-5 and 1867, and in 1881-2. He now owns three hundred acres of land in this vicinity, and is possessed of a handsome competency.

JOHN McMASTER, carpenter, is a native of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and dates his entrance into the world July 24, 1828. He is a son of Wm. McMaster, a native of the same county, and Margery Cunningham, of Fayette county, in the same state. After reaching majority he took up his trade, and removed to Iowa in 1853, pursuing his calling at different points in that state. He arrived in Oronoco May 28, 1856, and constructed several buildings, owning an interest in some of them, notably a plow shop and the building subsequently turned over to the school-district for its use. He was married October 11, 1857, to Miss Lawrence, daughter of Andrew and Mary Lees-Holliston, natives of Scotland. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. McMaster, as follows: Hector G., born July 16, 1858, married December 21, 1882, to Effie, daughter of M. C. Van Horn, and who resides in Rochester, this county; Alethea, born April 27, 1861 (now teaching school); Mary Lees, born February 20, 1863 (also teaching); Margery, born May 12, 1869, died August 27, 1872; Andrew H., born October 9, 1870, died April 20, 1873; Eve, born April 7, 1874. Mr. McMaster is a member of Rochester lodge A. F. and A. M. In politics he is a straight democrat. He was elected the first clerk of the township

on its organization in 1858 ; was chairman of town supervisors in 1864 and 1868, and served as justice of the peace in 1865. He owns a house and ten acres of land within the village, and is reckoned among the leading citizens.

RICHARD WATERMAN, farmer, son of Samuel and Annie (Morton) Waterman, went from Massachusetts, their native state, to Chemung county, New York, where the subject of this sketch was born, August 20, 1821. When Richard was twelve years old his parents proceeded westward, settling in Huron county, Ohio. Here he received a common school education, assisting his father on the farm. On August 27, 1841, Richard Waterman and Betsey M. Ingraham were united in marriage. Mrs. Waterman's parents, John and Susan Ingraham, were natives of Connecticut and New York. In 1854 Mr. Waterman emigrated westward, remaining two years in Lenawee county, Michigan, and arrived in Olmsted county in the spring of 1856, where he bought 80 acres of land on section 21 in this township, on which he now lives. Two years later he removed to Roscoe, Goodhue county, and remained there eight years, at the end of which time he returned to his present location. October 11, 1861, he enlisted in Co. D, 4th reg. M.V.I., and served three years in the army of the Tennessee ; was at Iuka, Corinth, siege and capture of Vicksburg, Mission Ridge and Altoona, besides participating in numerous smaller engagements ; and what is remarkable in connection with the severe service which Mr. Waterman endured, he was never in hospital or ambulance. In politics he was always a democrat, but never sought for or accepted office, military or civil. He came to Minnesota without capital, and has earned an independence by his prudence and industry. He is the father of five children, to wit : Mary A., born June 22, 1843, who became the wife of S. W. Rice, of Roscoe, in January, 1862, and lives at Osakis, Minnesota ; Emily, born October 18, 1851, who now resides in this township, and is the wife of William Fulton, to whom she was united November 17, 1871 ; Celinda, born August 12, 1853, who is the wife of Albert Williamson, and was wedded Christmas day, 1862, and still dwells in town ; Eliza, born October, 1855, who was wedded February 17 succeeding her twenty-second birthday, to Charles Culver, of this town, and lives in Brookings county, Dakota Territory ; Jenavie, born February 27, 1856, who is living at Osakis, the wife of O. H. Campbell, having married him July 3, 1877.

DANIEL S. HEBBARD, grocery merchant, Rochester, was born in Chautauqua county, New York, April 30, 1831. He received his early education in Kingsville, Ohio, and later took a course in Bryant, Lusk and Stratton's business college at Cleveland. He clerked for some years, and finally embarked in business in Lockport, Pennsylvania; on account of ill-health, however, he soon closed out, and came west to Rock county, Wisconsin. In 1856 he came to Olmsted county, taking a claim in the town of Salem. He farmed until 1866, when he was made deputy auditor, and in January, 1868, appointed auditor, the position being made vacant by the resignation of A. Harkins. He was subsequently elected to the same office three successive terms. In 1878, the probate judgeship being made vacant by the death of Mr. Richardson, he was appointed to that position, which he held until the term expired. In 1880 he entered the employ of D. H. Moon as bookkeeper, and in 1881 purchased his interest in the business. He was married to Miss Aurora McManus, who was also a native of Chautauqua county, New York. Their children's names are as follows: Margaret E. (deceased), Nellie M., Carrie K. and Arthur H. Mr. Hibbard is a Mason, and both himself and family are members of the Presbyterian church.

BARNEY MCGINLEY, farmer, was born in Donegal, Ireland, about 1825; was married there to Julia Dougherty. He emigrated to America in 1852, and spent three years in Philadelphia. Thence he moved westward and landed in New Haven, June 3, 1855. He immediately went to work for Samuel Brink on the millrace at New Haven village. Was employed as laborer and farmer until 1868, when he bought 80 acres of land on section 8, where he has since resided, living the quiet life of an humble tiller of the soil. Himself and family are all members of the Pine Island Roman Catholic church, and he and his son always vote the straight democratic ticket. Three children are numbered in his family: Susan, who married Charles Keeler and lives in Big Stone county, Minnesota; Sarah, lives with parents; John, also resides here.

CHARLES R. BUTTON, farmer, is a son of one of the pioneers of New Haven, namely, James Button, whose biography will be found in the Rochester department of this work. Our subject was born in the town of Nunda, McHenry county, Illinois, November 25, 1848. When he was in his seventh year his father removed to this township and settled on the land now tilled by his son, on section 14.

The elder Button acquired a large tract of land in the vicinity, with a sawmill, and the son assisted in managing the mill and in clearing and working the land. His education was received at the district schools at New Haven, Genoa and Center Grove. On the day that he was twenty-four years old he was united in marriage to Miss Ida Ottman, whose parents, John M. and Alvira Ottman, were of New York birth. Mr. and Mrs. Button settled on the old homestead, the father having removed to Rochester, and have there lived ever since the quiet life of pioneer farmers. Their family includes four children, who came to them as follows : Grace M., July 5, 1875 ; Maud, December 19, 1877 ; Mina, August 16, 1879 ; William, May 13, 1882.

ALMERON O. COWLES, carpenter and farmer, is descended from English ancestors. Rev. R. J., son of John Cowles, was born at Belchertown, Massachusetts, July 10, 1796 ; he united with the Cumberland Presbyterians at fifteen years of age ; taught school ; was married October 17, 1816, to Sibyl, daughter of Joseph Wright, the founder of Wrightsville, Pennsylvania ; he united with the Freewill Baptist church January 19, 1841, and labored as a minister for that body in New York and Pennsylvania till his death, which occurred March 29, 1874. A. O. Cowles, son of R. J., was born at Sugar Grove, Warren county, Pennsylvania, July 10, 1832. He attended the district schools till fifteen years old, when he was apprenticed to a carpenter. At seventeen he was discharged by his employer for some slight misdemeanor, and engaged at his trade on his own account ; has ever since been employed in building operations till within a few years. On January 26, 1854, he wedded Miss Thankful E. Foster, whose parents, David and Electa (Brown) Foster, were, like herself, born at Farmington, Pennsylvania. Mr. Cowles removed to the west in 1856, arriving in New Haven in April ; he bought the claim to 160 acres on the south side of section 31, which is still his home ; also pre-empted another quarter adjoining it on the north. In the fall of 1857 he went to Mantorville and resided there six years, returning at the end of that time to his farm. Having more land than he could manage while giving attention to his trade, he sold off a portion, and now has 112 acres, of which ten acres lie in the town of Kalmar. Plum creek, one of the sources of the Zumbro river, has its origin in a very large spring on his farm. Mr. Cowles is a member of Mantorville lodge, No. 62, A.O.U.W. ; has always been a republican ; served as town super-



visor in 1873, and as justice in 1881-2. He became a member of the Baptist church at an early age, as did also his wife. The latter died under an operation for ovarian tumor at Mercy Hospital, Chicago, November 18, 1876. Besides a large circle of acquaintances, who appreciated her noble, womanly qualities, four children are left to mourn her loss, as follows: Julia A., born March 28, 1857, married William Wheeler, September 17, 1878, lives at Sherman, Dakota; Charles J., January 1, 1862, lives near above; Gertie M., May 7, 1867; Bessie T., June 7, 1876. On February 21, 1878, Mr. Cowles was married to Emily J. Wheeler, whose parents, William D. and Delia (Gillen) Wheeler, were born in Boston. One child has blessed this union: Dwight Wheeler, born March 26, 1882.

JAMES H. HODGMAN, farmer, is one of the pioneer settlers of New Haven. He came here in the spring of 1856, and filed a claim on one-fourth of section 29, which is now his home; has since bought and sold a great deal of real estate; owned and lived on a farm in the town of Cascade for eighteen years. His capital on arriving here consisted of \$400; now owns his original claim, on which are comfortable buildings, and also a residence in Winnebago City, and a farm near that town. Mr. Hodgman is a republican in politics; has never been very active in public affairs, although he has been a school officer nearly all his life here; served his town as assessor in 1858, and as supervisor in 1860. Had he sought preferment, his intelligence and sound judgment would undoubtedly have placed him in high positions, for which those qualities so well fit him. In religion he is a liberal. The father of this subject, Benjamin Hodgman, was a native of Vermont, and married one of Maine's daughters, Miss Betsey Colby. They settled in the town of Eaton, Sherbrook county, Province of Quebec, where James H. was born, December 27, 1822. He assisted his father on the farm, and attended the district schools of the region. At twenty years of age he went to Vermont, where he followed farming. On October 15, 1853, he married Miss Diana Colby, whose parents, Rufus and Phœbe Baldwin-Colby, were natives of Ontario. During the year 1853 he paid a visit to Illinois, and resided near Lockport for a time, returning to Vermont. In the spring of 1855 he removed to Wisconsin, where he engaged in farming, and the following year settled in Minnesota, as above noted. Four children have been sent to grace the family of Mr. Hodgman, as follows: Jennie, June 28,

1854; William H., December 27, 1866; Lillie L., March 11, 1870; Scott, January 1, 1876.

HENRY C. PACKARD, millwright and farmer, is a native of Pennsylvania, as were his parents, John H. and Jane Carpenter-Packard; the latter still living at an advanced age. Henry C. Packard arrived in America at Franklin, Bradford county, August 4, 1828. He received a common school education, and helped his father on the farm. At nineteen years of age he was apprenticed to a millwright, and followed that occupation until he reached middle age. In October, 1856, Mr. Packard came to Olmsted county, and settled in Rochester, where he built a house with lumber he had earned at his trade in the town of New Haven. He was married in November, 1859, to Martha Carpenter, of Towanda, Pennsylvania, and was blessed with three children: Hettie and Helen, twins, born January 25, 1862, and Mary, born February 6, 1864, all living with parents at this writing. In the spring of 1864 Mr. Packard sold his city lots and bought 130 acres of land on sections 11, 12 and 13, in the township of New Haven, on which he has ever since made his home. Mr. Packard is a member of Pine Island lodge, A. F. and A. M. He is independent in politics. He served two terms as alderman in Rochester, and has been a member of the New Haven town board a large share of the time since his residence here, part of the time being chairman. He had less than one hundred dollars on his arrival in the county, and is now independent financially. On March 25, 1865, Mr. Packard enlisted in Co. L, 1st U. S. V. V. Engineers, and served until the 28th of the following September, in erecting buildings etc. in and about Chattanooga, Tennessee.

WALTER MARTIN, farmer, is one of the pioneer settlers of Olmsted county. He was born in County Galway, Ireland, in the year 1828. In 1851 he came to America and resided in the State of New York for five years. In the spring of 1856 he came to this county and made claim to 160 acres of land on section 19 of this township, which he has ever since retained. He engaged in teaming and subsequently as a miller at Mantorville and Wasioja. In July, 1862, Mr. Martin was married to Bridget Coyle, a native of County Galway, Ireland, and three years later settled on his farm, where he has ever since resided. Mr. Martin is a man of intelligence and good sense, but has given his time to the care of his family and farming operations, and has never mingled in public affairs. His political affiliations are with the democratic party. The family numbers five

children, born as follows : Catharine, September 29, 1863 ; Winifred, February 19, 1865 ; John, June 9, 1866 ; Edward, April 26, 1868 ; Walter, March 10, 1873. The family are all communicants of the Pine Island Roman Catholic church.

PATRICK KENNEDY, farmer, is a leading citizen of New Haven and a pioneer settler, having built the first house in what is called the "Irish settlement." He has been director of his school district for twelve years, and served the town as supervisor in the years 1879-80-81-2-3, having been elected at the last town meeting as an independent, his friends being dissatisfied with the regular nomination made in his stead at the caucus. Mr. Kennedy was born in Longhill parish, County Limerick, Ireland, in March, 1818. At twenty years of age he emigrated to America. After spending five years in New York he removed to Illinois and purchased a farm in Whiteside county. Here he married Mary Martin, sister of Walter Martin, elsewhere named under this township, November 23, 1849. In the spring of 1856 Mr. Kennedy came to New Haven and filed a claim on a quarter of section 30, and after making improvements thereon returned to Illinois. The next fall he settled here with his family, and has ever since been a resident. With the assistance of three neighbors he opened a road on the county line, over which he drove the first team, a pair of oxen. By various purchases he has added to his domain till he now owns four hundred acres on sections 18, 19, 20 and 30; to this may be added eighty acres which he presented to a daughter in this town, and 60 acres to a son in Dodge county. During the early years of his residence here Mr. Kennedy cleared one hundred acres of timber land with very little assistance aside from his own labor. He built his present handsome residence on section 19 in 1882. Mr. Kennedy and family belong to the Pine Island Roman Catholic church. In politics he is an independent democrat. Eight children have been born to him, as follows : Patrick, August 9, 1853, married Maria Lovell January 6, 1880, lives in Milton, Dodge county ; Catharine, October 30, 1855, married Hugh Wilson January 1, 1875, lives on section 17 ; Mary, November 15, 1857 ; John, April 29, 1860 ; Bridget, February 5, 1862 ; Johanna, September 2, 1864 ; Ann, August 14, 1866 ; Margaret, March 26, 1868.

DANIEL JEWELL, farmer. The parents of this subject, Jacob and Charlotte Priest-Jewell, emigrated from their native New Hampshire to Mercer, Maine, where Daniel was born to them No-

vember 27, 1812. Four years later they returned to New Hampshire, where their son was reared on a farm, enjoying the limited advantages afforded by the district schools of the time and locality. He was married March 15, 1835, to Mercy Priest, a native of New Hampshire, as were her parents, John Priest and Sarah Quimby. Mr. Jewell and his wife were both members of the sect known as First Day Adventists. Mrs. Jewell died October 6, 1853, having been the mother of three children, as follows: Marilla M., born March 11, 1837, married Lorenzo Quimby May 15, 1854, and resides in Concord, Dodge county, this state; Merinda, born March 9, 1840, married Freeman Smith March 16, 1856, and lives in New Hampshire; and Abby, born May 10, 1849, died August 18, 1852. Mr. Jewell engaged in farming in New Hampshire until his removal to the west. He was married February 5, 1854, to Abby C., daughter of Eli and Abigail Chickering-Snow, natives of Vermont and Massachusetts. In April, 1856, he removed with his family to this county and settled on section 4 of this township, which has ever since been his home. On his arrival here he engaged in breaking up land for himself and neighbors, and soon turned over six hundred acres of the virgin soil. Mr. Jewell is of a quiet and domestic disposition, and, like Old Grimes, does not make a noise town-meeting days. Up to Buchanan's time he was a democrat, but has ever since voted with the opposition party; he has been active in fostering schools, and his public offices have been in this connection. His present life-partner cherishes the same religious views as himself, and for a church-home they have united with the Freewill Baptists. Four children have been given to them, as below: Abby Elmo, born November 10, 1855, now living at Grand Forks, Dakota; Arthur L., born February 18, 1861, resides with parents; Carrie, born May 31, 1863, died October 10, 1864; Hosea C., born June 16, 1866, now employed in a drug-store at Pine Island.

EMERY H. DEWEY, farmer, Dover, was born in Sullivan, Tioga county, Pennsylvania, April 3, 1837. In 1855 he came to Illinois and thence to Minnesota in 1856, locating on the southeast quarter of section 19, in Dover township. He was married in 1859, to Miss Mary E. Sturdivant, a native of Crawford county, Pennsylvania. The names of their children are as follows: Abbie A., Solon H., Fred S. and Frank B., the latter two being twins. Mr. Dewey has served one term on the board of county commissioners. He is a



member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Dover, of the A.F. and A.M. at Eyota, and of the chapter at St. Charles. He is one of Olmsted county's well-to-do farmers and is highly respected by all.

RICHARD L. COTTERELL, farmer, Dover, was born in Worcester-shire, England, in January, 1815. In 1846 he came to America, locating in Jefferson, Wisconsin, and later to Dodgeville. In June, 1856, he came to Olmsted county, locating on the northwest quarter of section 3. Mr. Cotterell was married in 1842, to Miss Ann Pleaden, who died in 1851. He was again married in 1852, to Mrs. A. B. Marks, also a native of England. Sarah, Charles, John, Clare, Joseph N., Fannie W., Fred, George, James (deceased), Liz-zie and Minnie are their children's names. The family are members of the Congregational church. Mr. Cotterell is engaged largely in fruit raising, and has the finest apple-orchard in the county. He also devotes much of his attention to small fruit. He has taken premiums on fruit at every state fair held in Minnesota, and has recently been made a member of the state horticultural association.

URIAH L. CARPENTER, farmer, Dover, was born in Eastford, Con-necticut, November 3, 1818. His father, Palmer Carpenter, was a soldier in the war of 1812. His mother's name is Patty, and the family on both sides is of English descent. Our subject came to Olmsted county in 1856, locating on section 13, Dover township. He was married in December, 1846, to Miss Emily A. Childs, who died in 1856. He was married a second time in 1867, to Miss Tirza Prentice, who died May 3, 1871. He was again married in 1872, to Miss Sarah M. Keyes, also a native of Connecticut. His chil-dren's names are as follows: Ellen R., Marth A. (now the wife of R. F. Brett, of Henry, Dakota); Emily (wife of H. J. Starkweather, of Henry, Dakota) and Alfred B. Mr. Carpenter and wife are members of the Congregational church at St. Charles. His mother died at St. Charles in 1866, and his father in 1870 at the same place.

GERMAN T. WILSIE, farmer, Dover, son of Peter and Phœbe Wilsie, was born in Schoharie county, New York, June 28, 1819. In 1821 the family removed to southern Ohio. In 1843 our subject came west to Michigan, thence to Wisconsin in 1845. In 1856 our subject came to Minnesota, locating on section 29, Dover township. Mr. Wilsie was married in 1841, to Miss Hannah Hance, a native of Wayne county, New York. Munson O., Stephen (deceased), Rosetta (now wife of M. F. Dunham, of Mitchell, Dakota) and Al-

bert (deceased) are the names of their children. Stephen was a member of the 8th Minn. Inf., and died in 1865 in New Berne, North Carolina.

EDWIN F. KETCHUM, farmer, Dover township, was born May 3, 1825, in Berkshire county, Massachusetts. He came to Minnesota in 1856, locating on the northeast quarter of section 1. In 1877 he moved to Dover township, locating on section 10. He was married in 1853, to Miss Mary Stafford, a native of Vermont, who died in 1862. He was again married in 1868, to Sarah Judd, who died in 1879. Eddie and Jay are the names of their children.

DANIEL HISEY, farmer, of Orion, son of Joseph and Maria Hisey, was born in Ohio, May 8, 1834, where he lived until he was twenty-one years of age. He then went to Iowa in 1855, where he remained for one year. From there he came to Minnesota in 1856 and located on section 17, Eyota township, living there until the fall of 1864, when he bought on section 16, Orion township, where he now resides with his family. Mr. Hisey was married to Catharine Cline, April 21, 1859, and has two children, Mary J. and Frank M. Hisey. He is a member of the United Brethren church and is a democrat in politics. He received his early education in Ohio.

GEORGE B. STOCKING, glassware dealer, was born in Wesleyville, Erie county, Pennsylvania, June 12, 1853. He came to Olmsted county with his father in 1857, and was married in 1874, to a Miss Lulu Lathrop. Maud L., Mark (deceased) and Mary are their children's names. Mr. Stocking served three years at the jewelry business under instruction, and afterward carried on business for himself, but at the end of four years he abandoned it on account of poor health. He is a member of the A. F. and A. M., and also of the Episcopal church. Mrs. Lulu L. Stocking died February 13, 1883. She was born at Point Commerce, Indiana, December 30, 1854. When she was two years old the family removed to Greenwood Prairie, Olmsted county; subsequently they removed to Rochester, where she was united in marriage to Mr. Stocking, as above stated.

L. O. BENJAMIN, present city justice, was born in Woodstock, Vermont, July 3, 1830. In 1854 he came west as far as La Porte county, Indiana. Having been reared a farmer, most of his life was spent in that occupation. He came to Olmsted county in 1857, and located on a farm three miles south of Rochester. In 1862 he moved to the city, after which he acted eight years as deputy sheriff. He was

elected city justice in the spring of 1882. Mr. Benjamin was married in October, 1855, to Miss Helen C. Farnsworth, also a native of Vermont. Walter F., Hattie F., and Mary A. are the names of their children. Mr. Benjamin is a member of the I.O.O.F.

BENJAMIN F. BULEN, Rochester, was born in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, October 9, 1844. In 1857 the family emigrated to Olmsted county. October 6, 1862, our subject enlisted in Co. G, 1st Minn. Cav., serving until April, 1863, when he was discharged on account of disabilities. He was married November 28, 1867, to Miss Frances Cressy, a native of Massachusetts. Don, Cora M., William C., Benjamin F. and Flora B. are the names of their children. He is a member of the I.O.O.F., and also of the A. F. and A. M.

CAPT. MILTON J. DANIELS, one of Rochester's most estimable citizens, was born April 18, 1838, in Schoharie county, New York. His father's name was John V. and his mother's Hester A. Daniels. When still a child his father and family moved to Bradford county, Pennsylvania, where his father engaged in the lumbering business. When Minnesota was still a territory Mr. Daniels came to Olmsted county, where he purchased a large tract of land, and in Rochester opened a private real-estate and broker's office. In 1860 our subject returned to Middlebury, New York, and attended school until the outbreak of the war, when he enlisted, but was not called out of the state. He afterward assisted in organizing Co. F of the 9th Minn. Inf., which was mustered in August 28, 1862, and of which he was made second lieutenant, and subsequently captain. In the spring of 1865 he was commissioned by Abraham Lincoln, and was sent to New Orleans on Gen. Canby's staff. He was subsequently commissioned by President Johnson as brevet-major. In January, 1866, he was discharged, and returned to Olmsted county, where he entered the bank with his father and was made cashier. In 1873 the company received a charter, and was organized as a national bank, of which the captain is now president. In the fall of 1882 he was elected to the legislature by a handsome majority, where he will doubtless leave a record of which he and his constituents may be proud. Our subject was married in May, 1869, to Miss Jennie E. Booth, of Tioga county, New York, of which county her parents were early settlers. The names of the children resulting from this

union are as follows: Mertie B., Maud C. and Clyde L. Mr. Daniels was born January 22, 1844.

FREDERIC T. OLDS was born in Mercer county, Kentucky, January 25, 1836. His father was a farmer by occupation, and when our subject was quite young he emigrated to Macoupin county, Illinois, where he remained until 1852, when he removed to Clay county, Iowa. In 1857 they came to Olmsted county, and entered land near Byron. In the same year he built the mill now owned by Olds & Fishback, which was one of the first erected in the county. Our subject was married in 1859, to Miss Angelina Harding, also a native of Kentucky. Frederic A., born in April, 1860, is the only son. Mr. Olds, senior, died in 1864, from the effects of injuries sustained in falling from a building.

GEORGE HABER, cabinetmaker, of Rochester, is a son of Frederic and Mary Haber, and was born in Germany, February 26, 1837. When seventeen years of age he came to America and spent two years in Ohio, during which time he was engaged at his trade, which he had learned in his native country. In the spring of 1857 he came to Olmsted county, but soon returned to Ohio, where he remained until 1859, when he again came west and located in Rochester. There he was for several years engaged in the furniture business. In 1864 he was employed by the government to go to Bowling Green, Kentucky, where he was engaged in undertaking until the close of the war. He was married December 31, 1858, to Miss Mary M. Ennes, who was born in Lorain county, Ohio, in 1840. George B. and Emma J. are the names of their children. Mrs. Haber is a member of the Presbyterian church, and he is a member of the I.O.O.F.

AMOS HYATT, tinsmith, Rochester, was born in Celina, state of Ohio, August 17, 1841. When he was still a child the family emigrated to Fort Wayne, Indiana. His father died in 1845, and in 1850 the family returned east. In 1856 our subject came west to Janesville, Wisconsin, and in 1857 to Olmsted county, locating in Rochester. Here he was in the employ of John R. Cook until August 13, 1862, when he enlisted in Co. A, 6th regt. Minn. Inf.; serving twenty-three months on the frontier; after which he was sent south with the regiment, and on August 18, 1865, was mustered out. Mr. Hyatt was married to Miss Octavia Olds, who died April 8, 1866. He is a member of A. F. and A. M.; also of the com-



mandery and chapter at Rochester, being secretary of the latter organization.

GRANVILLE WOODWORTH, contractor, was born in Oneida county, New York, in 1832. In 1855 he came west as far as Janesville, Wisconsin, residing there two years. In 1857 he came to Rochester. Having learned the carpenter trade in the east, he found a great field for that line of industry in his adopted state. He built Heany's block, the Cook House, Ozmun's block, Rommell's block, Hunter's block, and many other smaller buildings, in Rochester and vicinity. He now has in course of erection the east wing of the Insane Asylum, which with many other handsome structures will stand as a silent testimonial of his mechanical skill. Mr. Woodworth was married in 1855, to Miss Harriet Rose, a native of New York State. Flora, Kate and Mary are the names of the children resulting from the union.

SAMUEL GEISINGER, farmer, was born in Canada West, April 24, 1816. When he was quite small his father's family emigrated to Medina county, Ohio. His boyhood days were spent on the farm, and in later years he went to Wadsworth, where he received an academical education. When twenty-four years of age he went to Goshen, Indiana, and there opened a drygoods store, which he conducted twelve years, after which he was elected treasurer of Elkhart county, which position he held five years. In 1857 he came to Rochester, bringing with him a stock of drygoods, and was engaged in business until 1860. In July, 1862, he raised Co. H (which was afterward a part of the 6th Minn. regt.), and of which company he was made first lieutenant, but resigned on account of ill health. After returning to Rochester he was engaged in the drug business for about twelve years, after which he retired from mercantile life. He was married in 1846, to Miss Sarah Smith, a native of Canada. Salina E., Alice and Cildora A., are the names of their children. Mrs. Geisinger is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and has been for many years a member of the choir.

ZAHNON J. COWLES, patternmaker and woodworker, was born in Litchfield county, Connecticut, in 1816. Later the family removed to Geneva, New York, where our subject received his education and learned cabinetmaking. In 1845 he went to Steuben county, and engaged in the furniture business. In 1855 he left New York State and came west to Grand Rapids, Michigan, where

he remained two years, coming to Rochester in 1857, where he organized the first brass band that existed in that city. In 1862 he enlisted as a musician in a regimental band. After returning to Rochester he embarked in the furniture business again, which he continued for some time. He is now engaged in making models and patterns. He was married in Geneva, New York, to Miss Sarah Huber. Martha, Helen, Kate, Augustus B., Torris, Sarah V. and Frank K. are the names of their children.

HARVEY T. HANNON was born in Van Wert county, Ohio, April 10, 1848. The family came to Olmsted county in 1857, and located six miles north of Rochester. Mr. Hannon received his early education in Rochester, and in 1869 entered the university at Ann Arbor, Michigan, where he attended two years. In the fall of 1873 he was elected county clerk, and at the expiration of the term was re-elected. Since that time he has been engaged in teaching and farming alternately. He is secretary of the Southern Minnesota Fair Association. He was married in 1871, to Miss Martha Moulton, a native of Dodge county, Wisconsin. Maud, aged five years, is their only child. Mr. Hannon is now connected with the Cockle Mill manufactory. Being a young man of strict integrity and fine business ability, he will doubtless do much for the promotion of that commendable enterprise.

HORACE LOOMIS, son of Uriah and Harriet Loomis, was born in Erie county, Pennsylvania, in 1825. When our subject was quite young, the family emigrated to Ashtabula county, Ohio, where his father was afterward elected sheriff, serving fifteen years. In 1857 Mr. Loomis came to Rochester and began carriagemaking, but in the following year was appointed deputy-sheriff, in which capacity he served four years; at the end of this time he was elected sheriff, serving three terms. Mr. Loomis was married in 1851, to Miss Eliza Ticknor, a native of England. Mabel R. and Vivian O. (deceased) are the names of his children. In 1870 he was appointed deputy-warden of the State's Prison at Stillwater, acting two years and a half in that capacity. In the summer of 1882 he took charge of the Bradley House.

GEORGE W. BAKER, collector of customs at Bismarck, Dakota, was born in Chittenden county, Vermont, January 9, 1823. When he was nine years of age, his father's family emigrated to the Western Reserve in Ohio, where they remained until the spring of 1853. In the spring of that year our subject came west to Dixon, Illinois,

and engaged in the furniture business, which he continued until the fall of 1855. When he came to Minnesota in 1856 he located in Kalmar township, and in 1857 came to Rochester. In the same year he was elected sheriff of Olmsted county, which office he held two terms. At the expiration of the second term he turned his attention to manufacturing. In 1881 he was appointed collector of customs at Bismarck, Dakota. His family, however, remains in Rochester. He was married in 1852, to Miss Sophia Dumars, a native of Pennsylvania. Elfie E. (deceased), Ida I. (now teaching in Duluth), George B. (attending the Minneapolis University), Nellie E. (deceased) and J. Ralph are their children's names. Mrs. Baker is a member of the Congregational church.

GEORGE BAIHLY, butcher, was born in Württemberg, Germany, January 4, 1837. He came to America in 1854, and to Olmsted county in 1857. In 1859 he began butchering and buying stock, in which occupation he has amassed a large competency. He was married in 1859, to Miss Caroline C. Fudger, a native of Indiana, who died in 1868. He was again married in 1870, to Miss Elizabeth Fulkerson. John W., Helen, Fred, Ralph, Arthur, Walter, Abram, Esther and Moses are the names of his children. He is a member of the A. F. and A. M. His eldest son, John W., has recently succeeded him in business, and has bright prospects before him.

THOMAS L. FISHBACK was born in Fayette county, Kentucky, in 1832. In 1839 the family emigrated to Macoupin county, Illinois. In 1854 Thomas went to California, where he turned his attention to mining. In 1857 he came to Olmsted county and entered the mill with his father-in-law. Since that time he has been prominently identified with the business interests of Rochester, and besides accumulating a large estate, has done much toward developing the city. He was married in 1856, to Miss Elizabeth J. Olds, a native of Kentucky. Horace, Herbert O., Blanche and Elizabeth are the names of their children.

In the year 1813, HARRISON DODGE, of Cascade, was born in the town of Belchertown, Hampshire county, Massachusetts, his parents' names being Daniel and Esther Dodge. While Harrison was a small child the family removed to the adjoining town of Pelham, where his time was spent until he was eighteen years old. He then went to the town of Montague, Franklin county, where he learned the wheelwright trade. He, also, while here, wrought at the carpenter trade, and in a factory. On October 24, 1837, Mr. Dodge was

united in marriage with Miss Cynthia P. Nettleson, the bride's birth-place being Northfield, Massachusetts. Nine children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Dodge, all but one of whom are now living. Mrs. Dodge died April 18, 1874. On October 24, 1876, Mr. Dodge was again married, the wife's name being Mrs. Nancy Stone, of Montague, Massachusetts. Mr. Dodge received only a common school education. In religion he is liberal; in politics, republican. His occupation is farming. In the year 1857 he came to Minnesota, taking a claim of a quarter-section of land in the town of Farmington. After remaining there two or three years he went back to Massachusetts, and removed his family to the new home in Minnesota. Some seven or eight years ago he purchased a farm in the adjoining town of Cascade, whither he removed his family, and where he continues to reside. He still owns his farm in Farmington.

The several failures of the wheat crop recently experienced has caused the more enterprising of the farmers of this part of Minnesota to turn their attention to some other source from which a satisfactory profit would be realized. Some have tried sheep-raising, some barley, others oats, whilst rye and potatoes are generally more grown; but to Mr. A. K. KNAPP, of this place, we must give the credit of inaugurating a new departure and demonstrating that well as wheat paid the farmer in times past, a general assortment of pure bred live-stock pays better, when care is taken in selecting the right kinds, together with proper attention as to their management.

The natural adaptability of the country, which for water and grass is unexcelled, a man of Mr. Knapp's practical ideas was not long in recognizing and acting upon, under the existing circumstances, and now his wonder is why he did not go into the industry sooner; although, both financially and practically, it is a far easier matter to raise wheat than cattle, more especially such as he has commenced upon. The first difficulty he had to meet was proper house accommodation, next, to erect proper fences, then the breeds best adapted to the general wants of the people, and last but not least, the cost. To all these points he gave careful attention, and now he has the satisfaction of having started the pioneer stock farm of this section of the country, conducted as such.

The cattle Mr. Knapp selected are the "Holstein," because he thinks this excellent breed will be better to mix with the ordinary stock at present raised by farmers generally, as their beef, farming



and milking qualities are, collectively speaking, unexcelled in any other breed. He purchased in Elgin, Illinois, a place renowned (as our readers know) for its pure stock, a car-load of young heifers, calves and yearlings, and the imported Holstein bull, "Eclair," No. 1664, H. H. B., bred by K. Pauw, of Wermer, North Holland. With this commencement, the result cannot but be profitable to the owner, and a great boon to those who cannot afford to buy pure breeds, but nevertheless, want to improve their stock. Mr. Knapp also raises pure Berkshire hogs, a good number of which he has always on hand. He is about commencing to raise the Norman-Percheron and the English carriage horses. The first named is famed as a heavy draught-horse, and the latter is noted for grace, symmetry and kindly nature. These, also, cannot but be a very acceptable acquisition to the general community, as the stock in this part of the state has been fast deteriorating by too close breeding and lack of fresh stock. Mr. Knapp came to this township from central Vermont in 1857, where he started farming on a section of land. He passed through the usual vicissitudes of the early settler, but overcame all obstacles, and now is happy in a grown up family, peace and prosperity.

LARENCE FAY, farmer, of Quincy, was born in County Galway, Ireland, in 1827. He came to America when eighteen years of age, stopping in Maine, and subsequently coming to New York State. In 1857 he came to Olmsted county, locating on section 25, Quincy township. He was married in 1851, to Miss Catharine Kennedy, also a native of Ireland. Maggie, Mary, Thomas, Kate, Sarah and Ella are their children's names. The family are members of the Catholic church.

FRANCIS WHITON, son of Abner and Amy (Chaffee) Whiton, was born in Ashford, Connecticut, January 13, 1824; spent the days of his boyhood on the farm with his parents; October 4, 1848, married Martha Lillibridge, who died May 10, 1853. There was one child, Mary A. Whiton, by his first marriage. In 1855 Mr. Whiton removed to Wisconsin, thence to his present homestead in Viola, Minnesota, where he located, May 10, 1857, and built a small log house which was superseded several years ago by a neat farm residence of unsullied whiteness, surrounded by evergreens and bearing fruit-trees. He was a shoemaker in Connecticut, but has been a successful farmer ever since his removal to the west. He married Jane E. Oaks, October 4, 1858, and they have three chil-

dren : Louis F., Edwin C. and Nellie A. At the organization of the township in which he lives, Mr. Whiton was elected justice of the peace, has been a school officer many years, chairman of supervisors and assessor. He is a careful reader, a keen observer, and a man of unquestionable probity, who merits the high esteem and profound respect with which he is regarded by all his neighbors.

JOHN C. HILLIARD, blacksmith, is a son of W. J. and Jane (Gleason) Hilliard, early settlers of this township. Mrs. Hilliard was born in Massachusetts, and her husband in Newark, New Jersey. On April 11, 1853, the Hilliards resided at Rock Stream, New York, and at that time and place was born the subject of this sketch. W. J. Hilliard came with his family to Kalmar in 1857. He secured a claim near the Zumbro, northwest of where Byron now is. This he soon sold and bought land on section 31. When the railroad arrived at Byron and a town was laid out, he built a blacksmith-shop in the village, and continued at his trade here till 1882, when he removed west. In 1875 he built the shop now occupied by his son, southwest of the railroad depot, which, with four acres of land, the latter bought of him in June, 1882. J. C. Hilliard was but four years old when he became a resident of this town, and most of his education was received at the common school in Byron. Hilliard, senior, is a very intelligent man and possesses a large library. The son inherits his traits and taste for culture. Although his labor is somewhat grimy, his intellect is none the less bright and keen. He was married June 1, 1882, to Agnes Schoonover, who was born at Money Creek, Winona county, this state, in August, 1863. They have one child, a boy, born June 27, 1883. Mr. Hilliard began work at his trade with his father when twenty years old, and is now doing a fine business. His parents were Baptists and his religious sympathies go with that sect. He is a republican, and was a member of the I.O.G.T. while a lodge existed at Byron.

IRA E. REMICK, farmer, was born in Phillips, Franklin county, Maine, April 25, 1824. His father, Philip Remick, was a native of the same state, and married Abigail Wright, whose father died in the United States service during the war of 1812. Mr. Remick was reared on a farm in the eastern part of Maine by an uncle, his parents having died, till sixteen years old, since which time he has cared for himself. He drove stages for many years in the Pine Tree State. He was married in November, 1844, to Harriet F. Shepard,

who was born in Topsham, Maine; her parents were Josiah and Thursa (Wright) Shepard. After his marriage Mr. Remick was employed two years in a wholesale store in Bangor. He then purchased a piece of timber-land and engaged in lumbering. In 1849 he went to Boone county, Illinois, where he dwelt five years. For eight years succeeding this he was farming in Rock county, Wisconsin. During the year 1851 he visited the upper Mississippi valley and noted its advantages. In 1857 he removed with his family to Kalmar, where he rented land. For the past seven years he has resided in Byron, where he has been street commissioner during that time; is also sexton of the cemetery, and has been constable of the township for twenty-one years. He is a republican. Himself and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mrs. Remick has been an invalid for many years. Fourteen children have been born to them, of whom eleven are living, as follows: Frank, August 16, 1844, married Harriet Post, lives in Minneapolis; Sarah, October 20, 1849, home in Rochester; James, November 9, 1853, married Emma Chase, of Minneapolis; Emma, December 26, 1857, here; Addie, September 17, 1859, married Fred Clough, of Eau Claire, Wisconsin; Ellen, February 24, 1863, here; Clarence, May 18, 1865; Leatha, January 28, 1867; Lorenzo, February 16, 1869; Bertha, October 13, 1871; Agnes, March 25, 1873.

ALONZO R. FORDICE, son of Stanton and Sarah Fordice, was born at Port Henry, New York, in the year 1835. In 1847 he moved from there with his father to Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, where he received his early education. In May, 1857, young Fordice came to Eyota, Minnesota, to start life on his own account. He first worked for Mr. O. P. Whitcomb, as a farm hand. Soon after he bought the farm where he now lives, on sections 26 and 27. Mr. Fordice was married on April 10, 1864, to Sarah Corrison, of Eyota. The issue of the marriage consists of four children, James, Minnie, Sidney and Tactae. Mr. Fordice is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and in politics he is a prohibitionist.

THOMAS CONLEY, Pleasant Grove, was born in the State of New York, in 1833. He came west to Fillmore county, Minnesota, in 1857, and to Olmsted in 1873, locating on section 13, High Forest township. He was married March 2, 1864, to Miss Diana E. Hueston, a native of Canada. Kerry E., J. L. Fred, Byron and Raymond are their children's names. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, is also a Mason, and politically is independent.

REV. JOHN HANEY, Pleasant Grove, was born in York county, Pennsylvania, April 10, 1808. In tracing back the family lineage he finds the paternal name to be of German origin. His father and mother were members of the German Reformed church, but after arriving at years of understanding our subject abandoned the faith and united with the United Brethren church, entering the field as a minister in 1829. In 1830 he began circuit traveling. He went to Virginia in 1832, laboring in that state and Maryland until 1857, when he was sent by the missionary board to Olmsted county, traveling three years in that and Dodge, Steele and Faribault counties. On account of failing health he abandoned his profession as a steady occupation, and located on a farm in sections 2 and 3, Pleasant Grove township. He was married March 6, 1856, to Miss Sarah Ebberly, a native of Shenandoah county, Virginia. Martha E., Lewis H., Mary A., John Q., Jacob H. and William O. are their children's names.

IRA C. BARDWELL, M.D., Pleasant Grove, was born in Wayne county, New York, in February, 1812. In 1819 the family removed to Livingston county, New York. When twenty-two years of age our subject went to Cuba, New York, where he entered the law office of Dr. Champlain, remaining a year and a half. After which he went to Steuben county, thence to Willoughby, Ohio, where he studied and attended lectures two years. He practiced at different points in the east, and at Prophetstown, Illinois, until 1856, when he came to Rochester, thence to Pleasant Grove, three years later. He was married in 1837, to Miss Louisa Cutler, a native of Massachusetts. Ella, now the wife of Adrian Peck, is the only living child. He is a member of the Masonic order at Pleasant Grove.

CHARLES W. RUSSELL, merchant, Pleasant Grove, was born in Venango county, Pennsylvania, October 26, 1842. In 1857 the family came to Minnesota, locating on section 25, Pleasant Grove township. In August, 1862, our subject enlisted in Co. H, 6th Minn. Inf., serving three years on the "tented field." As the movements and engagements in which that regiment participated will be found in preceding pages, it is not necessary to relate the experience of individual members. Mr. Russell embarked in the merchandise business at Pleasant Grove in 1871. He was married in 1879, to Miss Mattie J. Lovelace, a native of Pennsylvania. Harmon is the name of their only child. He is a member of the A. F. and A. M. at Pleasant Grove.



WILLIAM CARLEY, farmer, is a native of New York, having been born in that state May 7, 1830. His parents, Richard and Eliza (Hubbs) Carley, were also natives of the same state. When the subject of this sketch was yet a small child his parents removed to Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, where he was brought up on a farm. In September, 1848, he was married to Emily, daughter of William and Ellen Harmon. In May, 1857, Mr. Carley arrived with his family at Oronoco, and took up government land on section 3, where he resided until 1864, removing at that time to the village. In the early days, when living in his "claim shanty," he often entertained a dozen Sioux Indians, allowing them to sleep on the floor. Mr. Carley enlisted October 29, 1862, in Co. I, 1st Minn. Mounted Rangers, and served until December 1, 1863, guarding settlers on the western frontier and assisting in quelling the bloodthirsty Sioux, whose uprising in August, 1862, has left such a bloody trail on the memories of thousands of pioneers. While in this service he witnessed the hanging of some of the same Indians that had slept in his cabin in 1857-8. In politics Mr. C. has always been a republican, and has served his town as constable and as a member of the town board. His family numbers seven children, as follows: Elizabeth, born November 8, 1857, married Charles A. Allen, November 1, 1879, and now resides in Pierre, Dakota; Nettie, born February 7, 1861, resides at home; May, born May 3, 1862, married December 16, 1882, to Edgar Snyder, and lives at Pierre; Agnes, born March 7, 1865; Mary, July 21, 1867; Frank, November 23, 1869; Lucy, September 7, 1872.

CHARLES B. CARLEY, farmer, is a brother of William Carley, a biographical sketch of whom is given above. The subject of this sketch was born January 17, 1836. He received a common school education in Pennsylvania, and assisted his parents on a farm there. He was married June 10, 1851, to Agnes, daughter of Joseph and Hannah Dodson, natives of Pennsylvania. In May, 1857, Mr. Carley arrived in Oronoco, and made a claim to government land on N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 1. Before the land was purchased it was found to be railroad land, and its occupant was compelled to pay \$3 per acre to secure a title. Half of this land was subsequently disposed of, but Mr. Carley has always resided on the remainder, and still dwells there, at peace with all his fellow men. His children have numbered ten, of whom eight still remain, as follows; Joseph D., born April 15, 1852, now residing near Winona, where he married Jennie

McCool, in December, 1877; Eliza, born July 10, 1854, now living in Big Stone county, this state, with her husband, S. W. Dale, to whom she was united September 4, 1872; Sterling, born February 3, 1856, living in Iowa; Frederick, born August 6, 1858, who married Mary Hoffman, of Pine Island, in October, 1878, and now dwells in Mazeppa; Charles E., born September 29, 1860, who now lives at Farm Hill, having married Augusta Klos, of Zumbro; Ernest, born March 12, 1862, and died October 18 succeeding; William, born July 30, 1864; Frank, born November 3, 1866, died August 1, 1868; James A., born June 7, 1869; and Walter C., born March 13, 1871. Mr. and Mrs. Carley are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. In state affairs Mr. Carley has always supported the democratic party, but has invariably avoided any personal connection with public concerns.

CHAUNCEY AND RUDOLPH VROMAN, farmers. These brothers were born near Rome, New York, the former on January 11, 1827, and the latter October 26, 1830. Their parents, Rudolph Vroman and Hannah Mower, were descended from the early Dutch settlers, and were born in Montgomery county. The brothers were reared on a farm, and attended the district schools of their native town, Lee. In the fall of 1856 the elder visited Olmsted county in search of a location for farming, and returned home well pleased with its promise. The following spring the brothers came to Oronoco, and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 33 (where they still reside), and on section 28. They have prospered in business, and have gradually added to their domain until they now possess one thousand and eighty acres of land in the township, of which eight hundred and eighty acres lie in one body about their residence. They also own a cheese factory in Rochester, with five acres of ground, dwelling, storehouse, barn, etc. During the winter of 1877-8 Chauncey Vroman was engaged in buying grain on these premises. On March 9, 1882, Chauncey Vroman was united in marriage to Sina Brink, a native of Denmark. They now have an infant child called Clara. Rudolph Vroman still remains a bachelor. In religious belief the brothers are Universalists. They have taken very little interest in politics, but when voting support the democratic party. In the earlier history of Oronoco, Chauncey Vroman served as a member of the town board of supervisors.

JACOB F. RUBER, farmer, is a native of Germany, having been born in the kingdom of Würtemberg, September 21, 1825. Like

all people of his country he received a fair education in youth, then took up the trade of shoemaker. At the age of twenty-two he emigrated to America, and settled in New York, pursuing his calling there. In the spring of 1854 he removed to Jackson county, Iowa, and a year later to Lakeland, in this state. In the spring of 1857 Mr. Ruber became a resident of Oronoco, taking a quarter-section of government land on sections 10 and 11, which he sold in 1864. He then bought a farm of the same size on sections 4 and 5, where he still resides. On November 11, 1847, J. F. Ruber and Miss R. D. Rucker, a native of Germany, were joined for life in New York, and still cheer each other on life's journey, having reared a family of six children: Emily, born March 3, 1849 (who now resides in Mazeppa, having married Ira A. Fifield, December 29, 1867); Catharine, born September 21, 1850 (who is a dress-maker, and resides most of time with the above sister); Harriet E., born January 6, 1853, and died September 10, 1856; William F., born October 14, 1854 (who lives on section 5, and married Hattie Clason, of New Haven, April 16, 1878); George W., born September 23, 1856 (who married Ada Huntsinger, of this town, July 4, 1880, and dwells on section 5); and Charles C., born June 24, 1861 (now pursuing a course of business training at Rochester). Mr. and Mrs. Ruber were brought up in the faith of the Lutheran church, which they still cherish. Mr. Ruber is a member of Rochester lodge, A. F. and A. M. In politics he is a democrat. He was one of the first organizers of his school district, which he served as clerk from 1859 to 1871. He was a member of the town board of supervisors in 1865, 1871 and 1873, and served with great justness and satisfaction as assessor in 1874-5-6. He enjoys the esteem of all his fellow citizens.

EDMUND MOULTON, farmer, was reared on a farm in Grafton county, New Hampshire, of which state his parents, Edmund and Eliza (Hill) Moulton, were also natives. The subject of this sketch was born April 17, 1816, and is therefore sixty-seven years old. Three years of his life, from twenty-five to twenty-eight, were spent in a tannery. He has always preferred a life of quiet, and for ten years after locating in Oronoco did not attend an election. He is entirely independent of party in his political opinions and actions and has never taken part in public affairs of town or county. His wife, Mary E., is a native of New Hampshire, as were her parents John Emery and Sarah *née* Fifield. Mr. and Mrs. Moulton were

wedded March 19, 1850, and settled in Oronoco in September, 1857. Eighty acres of land on section 30 were purchased, to which has since been added a ten-acre tract of timber in New Haven township. In 1861 Mrs. Moulton united with the Adventist church which was organized here at that time, and has ever since been a prominent member of that body of believers. The family includes five children, all of whom are settled within a short distance of their parents. They are: Sarah M., born May 19, 1857 (who married Elijah Chapman in March, 1868, and resides at Milton, Dodge county); Mary E., born November 2, 1852 (who married Langdon Moulton in 1874, and lives in Roscoe, Goodhue county); Katie R., born July 25, 1855 (who dwells at Pine Island with Charles Batson, to whom she was wedded February 2, 1878); Emma E., born February 3, 1857, who resides with her parents; Bryant, born May 1, 1859 (who married Ida Horton, March 14, 1881), and lives on section 30, near his father's residence.

DAVID L. BONNER, Stewartville, was born in Strabane, Ireland, in October, 1812. His ancestors were of Scotch origin. In 1820 the family came to America, locating in Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania. Charles Bonner, the father of our subject, was a merchant by occupation, and died in 1838 at Herrick, Pennsylvania. When thirteen years of age our subject was apprenticed to a shoemaker in Wayne county, Pennsylvania. He worked at his trade until 1843, when he purchased a farm and sawmill and was engaged in lumbering and farming until 1857, when he came to Mower county, Minnesota, locating in the town of Racine. He was married in 1839, to Miss Margaret Phillips, who died in 1862. He was again married in 1871, to Mrs. Julia M. Spearbeck, who also departed this life in 1882. The names of Mr. Bonner's children are as follows: Charles L. (residing in Winona); Thomas F. (now of Central City, Colorado); Catharine E. (wife of William J. Patterson, of Pipestone county); Mary A. (wife of George D. Knox, of Mower county); Henry P., Andrew J., Ella M., Martha G. and John J. Mr. Bonner has been a member of the Presbyterian church since 1841.

JOHN M. GUNN, farmer, High Forest, was born in Ireland, in 1819. He came to America when twenty-eight years of age, locating in Lower Canada. After remaining there seven years he went to Joliet, Illinois, and to Olmsted county, in 1857, locating on section 11, High Forest township. He was married in 1832, to



Miss Winnifred Cafferty, a native of Ireland. Isabella and Ann are the names of their only children. Of these the former is residing with her parents and the latter is in a convent at St. Paul. The entire family are members of the Roman Catholic church.

JOHN KANE, farmer, was born in the parish of Miarte, County Clare, Ireland, in June, 1824. At twenty-seven years of age he emigrated to America, and first located at Chicago, where he engaged as a laborer. After spending six years thus at Chicago and in Michigan, he came to New Haven in 1857, and pre-empted 160 acres of land on section 17. This land was entirely covered with timber, and Mr. Kane immediately set about clearing it up. During the first season nine acres were prepared for the plow, of which three acres were sowed to wheat and the balance planted with corn, potatoes and buckwheat. Many hardships were endured by Mr. Kane's family during the first years of their residence here; but he persevered in his determination to make a home, and now possesses nearly a section of the finest agricultural land in the township or state. During the winter of 1857-8 they were obliged to subsist for some time on corn-cakes without salt, as all other supplies had been cut off by the blockade of travel on account of snow. Mr. Kane and family are all members of the Pine Island Roman Catholic church, and himself and sons are supporters of the democratic party. Mr. Kane's marriage took place at Chicago, December 16, 1852. Margaret Conner, a native of County Galway, Ireland, was the bride, who is still his faithful helpmeet. His family includes four living children, two having been taken away by death; their names and dates of birth are as follows: Dennis, November 25, 1853, married Ann Riley, November 27, 1878, and lives on his father's farm; Bridget, February 12, 1855, married John Riley, February 15, 1882, and lives in Bell Creek, Goodhue county; James, August 26, 1856, was educated at Montreal, and is now a priest at St. Paul; twin brother of James, died in infancy; Michael, May 6, 1858, resides with parents; Joanna, November 15, 1859, died November 30, 1876.

THOMAS CORNWELL, farmer, is a pioneer and leading citizen of New Haven. His parents, John Cornwell and Alida Milliman, were natives of New York, and settled on a farm in Tompkins county, that state. Here was born to them a son, whose name stands at the head of this sketch, on September 10, 1836. He assisted his father in the tillage of his domain, and received the educational advantages

afforded by the district schools of his native town. In April, 1857, being then in his twenty-first year, he left his native state and came to New Haven. In the fall of the same year he returned to New York and was married there on April 6, 1859, to Miss Clarissa Spencer, a native of the same state, as were her parents, Weeden T. and Catharine Reynolds Spencer, both born in Delaware county. Immediately after marriage Mr. Cornwell came with his bride to New Haven and settled down to farming on his original claim on section 3, which has been his residence ever since, with the exception of three years, from 1863 to 1866, spent in New York. By industry and thrift he has gradually added to his domain until he now owns 400 acres of choice land on sections 2, 3, 10, 11 and 16. His capital on arrival here was little more than sufficient to purchase his claim from the government. Mr. Cornwell is a member in good standing of the order of A. F. and A. M. In politics he is an independent democrat, and has been placed several times by his fellow-citizens at the head of the town affairs, having served as chairman of the board of supervisors in 1873-4-5 and in 1882-3. He has been blessed with four children, all of whom reside with him, their births dating as below: Ella K., October 3, 1860; Helen M., July 4, 1863; Cynthia J., September 3, 1867; Leon L., October 12, 1872.

ALONZO H. PICKLE, farmer, Dover, was born in Canada East, July 2, 1843. In 1857 his father's family removed to Minnesota, locating two miles west of the present village of Dover. His father, Simon Pickle, died 1879, and his mother, Sarah, in 1881. On August 2, 1862, our subject enlisted in Co. K, 1st Minn. Inf. While in the service of his country he participated in the following-named engagements, First and Second Fredericksburg, Bristow Station, Haymarket, Gettysburg, Mine Run, Petersburg, Hatch Run and High Bridge. He was also present at Lee's surrender. He was discharged June 22, 1865. He was married in 1868, to Miss Rhoda J. Smith, a native of Burlington, Iowa. Frank O. (deceased), Burton O., Annie, Ella and Royal are their children's names. Mr. Pickle is a member of the Knights of Honor and Royal Arcanum at St. Charles.

GEORGE C. SHEEKS was born in Wayne county, Kentucky, February 18, 1809. In 1815 his father's family emigrated to Indiana, locating in Lawrence. In 1857 our subject came to Olmsted county, being one of the pioneer settlers. He has since that time been

prominently connected with the growth and development of the Methodist Episcopal church, and is an ardent worker in the Master's field. He was married in 1833, to Miss Artemecia Crawford, who died in 1863. He was again married in 1864, to Sarah E. Taylor, a native of Essex county, Massachusetts. Sampson (deceased), Lucena, Elijah and Eliza (twins), Franklin, William S. (deceased), Wells, John (deceased), Oliver P., Hugh, Sarah E. and Mary B. (deceased) are their children's names. Franklin served three years in the 1st Minn. Inf. during the late war, and Wells served in an Illinois regiment. E. H. Sheeks, enlisted February 22, 1864, in 1st Minn. Art., and was mustered out July 4, 1865.

JOHN R. HENRY, farmer, Dover, was born in Homer, Cortland county, New York, in 1832. When twenty-four years of age our subject went to Virginia, remaining one summer. In 1856 he came west to Dodge county, Wisconsin, remaining until 1857, when he came to Olmsted county, locating on section 28, Dover township. Mr. Henry was married in November, 1848, to Miss Asenath Farrel, a native of Halifax, Vermont. The names of the children born to the couple are as follows: Albert B., now in Coddington county, Dakota; Cassius M., Frank N. and Forest. Mrs. Henry was born in 1832; her family are of English origin.

JOHN G. BUSH, druggist, Dover Center, was born in Worcester county, Massachusetts, December 15, 1852. His father's family came to Olmsted county at an early day. Our subject received his education in the neighboring district school and the Winona High School. Subsequently he and his brother embarked in the drug business in Dover Center, where prosperity attends them. Our subject was married in 1877, to Miss Polly Hatfield, a native of Olmsted county. Harry is the name of their only child. Mr. Bush is a member of the A. F. and A. M. at St. Charles.

I. DENNISON THOMPSON, farmer, Dover, was born in the town of Colerain, Franklin county, Massachusetts, in 1836. When he was eighteen years of age his father's family removed to Connecticut, remaining three years. At the end of that time our subject came to Minnesota, locating on section 30, Dover township. He was married in December, 1862, to Miss Maggie E. Johnson, a native of Chillicothe, Ohio. Three children have been born to them, whose names are as follows: Ida M., Willie W. and Jennie H. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at



JOSEPH B. KENDALL.





Dover. Mr. Thompson is a member of the A. F. and A. M. at Dover.

DAVID C. COOK, liveryman, of Rochester, was born in Lamoille county, Vermont, in 1829. When twenty-two years of age he and his brother George came west to Chillicothe, Ohio. In 1856 he came to Watertown, Wisconsin, remaining two years. In 1858 he came to Rochester and embarked in the livery business. He was married in 1868, to Miss Sarah Hitchcock, who died in 1871. He was again married in 1874, to Mary Langdon. Earl is the name of their only child.

MATHEW MARKHAM, of Rochester, brickmason and contractor, was born in Rochester, New York, in 1826. In 1845 he went to sea from New Bedford. In 1847 he became a soldier in the United States navy, serving twenty-two months in the Mexican war. In 1849 he returned to the United States. On board the vessel on which he sailed was a quantity of gold, which was the first brought from California. He came to Milwaukee, thence to La Crosse in 1853. Here he assisted in building the first brick business house in the city. In 1855 he came to Le Sueur county, Minnesota, thence to Sibley county, and to Olmsted county in 1858. He has had charge of the construction of many of the fine business and private buildings in Rochester. He was married in 1852, to Miss Hannah Donahue, a native of New York State. Jane D., William M., Albert E., George H., Mary A. and Flora D. are the names of their children. Mr. Markham is an Odd-Fellow of high standing.

GEORGE TOWNSEND, retired farmer, was born in Lewis county, New York, in 1810. This state was his home until 1858, when he came to Olmsted county, remaining in Rochester one year, when he moved seven miles northwest on a farm. He now resides in the city. He was married in 1832, to Miss Maria Brigham, also a native of New York State. In 1880 his wife died, leaving him without a companion in his declining years.

ROBERSON CORNFORTH (deceased) was a son of William and Lydia Cornforth, and was born in Franklin county, Maine, July 1, 1824. When twenty-one years of age he went to Providence, Rhode Island, and there engaged in business, which he continued two years. From that city he went to Salem, Massachusetts, where he remained until January, 1849. In that year he sailed from Boston on board the ship Capitol for California, where he entered the gold regions and was afterward engaged in farming and stock-raising

with varying success. In September, 1853, he came to St. Paul, where he remained until 1858, when he came to Rochester and engaged in the lumber business. Mr. Cornforth was married in May, 1868, to Miss Julia Mershom, a native of New York. Charles A. is the name of their only living child. Mr. Cornforth was called very suddenly and unexpectedly to meet his Creator, but it is believed that he met death as he had battled with life, cheerfully and with a manly heart. In life he was loved and respected, and in death he is deeply mourned.

\* ALFRED D. LEET, drygoods merchant, was born in Chautauqua county, New York, December 1, 1828. He was for six years engaged at tailoring in Sherman. In 1857 he came west and located in Mantorville, remaining one year. In 1858 he came to Rochester and in company with Jay LaDue opened a clothing store. At the end of six years they dissolved, after which our subject became an employé of J. D. Blake & Co., in which capacity he acted two years, when he became a member of the firm. Mr. Leet was married in 1854, to Miss Ellen J. Strong, also a native of New York. They are members of the Universalist church. He is one of Rochester's most successful and popular business men. His grandparents were early settlers in Chautauqua county, and one of his ancestors was at one time governor of Connecticut.

HORACE E. HORTON, civil engineer and bridge builder, was born in Norway, New York, December 20, 1843. In 1856 he went to Utica and spent two years attending the high schools of that city. In 1858 he came to Olmsted county, locating in Rochester. In 1863 he returned to New York and entered the Fairfield Seminary in Herkimer county, where he studied civil engineering, to which he has since devoted a part of his time and attention. After spending three years there he returned to Rochester. He has erected large highway bridges in several states, three of which are across the Mississippi. For three years he has had charge of work in his line for the insane hospital board. He is a member of the Western Society of Engineers of Chicago and the American Society of Civil Engineers of New York. He was married December 28, 1871, to Miss Emma Babcock, a native of Cook county, Illinois. George T., Susie P. and Jessie M. are the names of the children born to the couple.

FRANKLIN VAN DOOSER, hardware dealer, was born in Randolph, New York, November 17, 1834; later his father's family emigrated to Meadville, Pennsylvania, where the subject of this sketch received

his education. He came to Rochester in 1858, and opened a drug store. He afterward entered the lumber business. In 1862 he raised a company (Co. I, Mounted Rangers), of which he was made first lieutenant; serving fifteen months on the frontier, and returning to Rochester in 1864, where he embarked in the hardware business, which he still continues. He was married in 1859, to Miss Emma F. Nelson. Emma, Charlie and Helen M. are the names of their children. Mr. Van Dooser and family are members of the Episcopal church.

JAY LA DUE, traveling salesman, was born in the State of New York, April 7, 1827. His father, Joshua La Due was one of the pioneer settlers of that county.

In 1847 the subject of this sketch commenced merchant-tailoring in Fredonia, New York, his partner being a man named Isherwood. The firm did business in that town five years. In 1850 Mr. La Due went to Sherman, New York, and in company with A. D. Leet commenced business there. In 1853 he was appointed postmaster, which position he held until 1857. In that year the firm came to Mantorville, Minnesota, where they remained one year, thence to Rochester in 1858, where they carried on business until the winter of 1861-2, when they dissolved and closed out their stock. Mr. La Due having suffered from ill health, then started on the road with a wagon selling notions for R. I. Johnston & Co., which he continued five years. He then returned to New York and engaged with Whitfield, Powers & Co., of that city.

He was married in 1850, to Miss Janette Buell, a native of New York State. Clarence M., Lamott, Mabel, John Jay and Albert are the names of their children.

GEORGE, son of Chester and Clarisa (Lee) STOCKING, was born in Hartford county, Connecticut, in January, 1816. When he was an infant the family emigrated to Ohio and located in Geauga county, which was then almost a wilderness. In 1848 our subject joined the Erie conference and was ordained a Methodist minister, after which he spent eight years traveling through western Pennsylvania and Ohio, and was afterward located. He came to Minnesota in 1857, and in 1858 located in Eyota township, remaining six years. He then came to Rochester and engaged in the grocery business, and later in the glassware business. He served as justice one term in Eyota and one in Rochester.

He was married in 1838 to Miss Jane Bosworth, a native of New



York State. Angeline M., wife of W. H. Ireland, Francis A. (deceased), Clark (deceased), George B. and Belle are the names of their children.

JOSEPH ALEXANDER LEONARD was the youngest of five children of Rev. William Leonard, a native of Salisbury, Maryland, and his wife, Harriet Laverty, of Berks county, Pennsylvania.

He was born on Christmas eve, 1830, at Cambridge, Maryland, where his father, who was a member of the Philadelphia conference of the Methodist church, was then stationed. His father was afterward stationed at Seaford, Delaware, where he died in 1832. The family afterward lived at West Chester and at Columbia in Pennsylvania, and in 1840 removed to Philadelphia, where he attended the public schools till about fifteen years old, when he was employed first in a drygoods store, and afterward in a book-publishing house. At the age of seventeen he entered the office of Prof. James McClintock, lecturer on anatomy and surgery in the Philadelphia Medical College, at which institution after three years' attendance at lectures he graduated as a doctor of medicine in the summer of 1851, when about six months under the legal age. He practiced medicine at Dowagiac, Michigan, until the summer of 1853, when he removed to Whitewater, Wisconsin, where he pursued the same profession for about a year and a half, but becoming, in the meanwhile, local editor of the Whitewater "Gazette," he afterward became one of its owners, in partnership with Mr. Addison Emerson and editor. In December, 1856, they removed the "Gazette" to Waukesha, Wisconsin, where they consolidated it with the Waukesha "Plain Dealer," and established the Waukesha "Republican," the first permanent republican paper in that county. He edited the "Republican" until the spring of 1858, when he went to Madison, Wisconsin, where he was appointed clerk to a committee of the Wisconsin legislature for the investigation of loans of the state school funds. On the adjournment of the legislature he came to Rochester, Minnesota, arriving there June 7, 1858. He entered the law office of Hon. Moses W. Fay, and after being admitted to the bar, October 20, 1858, became a partner with Mr. Fay in the firm of Fay & Leonard. He retired from the firm and practiced alone after about a year of partnership. In 1859 he was elected, on the republican ticket, county attorney for Olmsted county. He was the first county attorney of the county, that office superseding, under the state organization, the district-attorneyship which had existed under

the territorial organization. He held the office for two years. In April, 1861, he was appointed by President Lincoln the first republican postmaster of Rochester. On October 30, 1861, he was married to Miss Kate, daughter of Mr. Zalmon J. and Mrs. Sarah Cowles, of Rochester. In May, 1864, he was appointed by President Lincoln as captain and commissary, and resigned the post-mastership. He was assigned to the 1st division of the 16th Army Corps, a command in which were included four Minnesota regiments, with which he was continued during his term of service, being on the staff, first of Gen. Joseph A. Mower, and afterward of Gen. John McArthur. At the close of the war he was stationed at Selma, Alabama, as depot and post commissary. He returned to Rochester in August, 1865, and was discharged from the army in October, 1865, with the brevet rank of major. In November, 1865, he entered into partnership with Walter S. Booth, Esq., in the firm of Leonard & Booth, who purchased the city "Post" printing-office, and became publishers of the Rochester "Post," he acting, chiefly, as editor of that paper. In January, 1868, he was elected president of the Minnesota editorial association, and was re-elected in 1869, serving two terms. He delivered the annual address before the association in 1871 and again in 1881. In 1868 he was elected state senator for Olmsted county on the republican ticket, and held the office one term, serving in the legislative sessions of 1869 and 1870. In May, 1874, he was appointed by President Grant as register of the United States land office at Jackson, Minnesota, and held the office until August, 1875. During his incumbency, in the spring of 1875, the office was removed to Worthington, Minnesota. In 1875, on the establishment of the Minnesota inebriate asylum at Rochester, which has since been made the Rochester hospital for insane, he was appointed by Gov. Davis as a member of the first board of directors, and in the organization of the board he was made treasurer. He resigned the office in 1876, when in October, 1876, the firm of Leonard & Booth was dissolved by the retirement of Mr. Booth, leaving to Mr. Leonard the sole ownership and management of the "Post" and the "Post" printing-office, which he conducted until he went abroad. In June, 1877, he was appointed by President Hayes as one of the visitors to the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland, spending ten days in attendance on the annual examinations and graduation exercises of that institution, and being selected by the board of visitors to write their

report. On July 1, 1881, he was appointed by President Garfield as United States consul at Leith, Scotland, and is now with his family, residing at Edinburgh, of which city Leith is the port.

REUBEN B. MOORE, farmer, was born in Rochester, New York, September 24, 1826. Both his parents were natives of the same state, his mother, Betsey M. Truman, being born at Painted Post. His father was Norman C. Moore, who went to Illinois in 1833, and settled the following year in De Kalb county, near the present site of Sycamore. At that time his nearest white neighbor was fifteen miles away, and Indians were everyday companions. The subject of this sketch drove the oxen that broke the first land in that section. In 1844 he went with his parents to Putnam county, Illinois, and thence went with oxen to California in 1849, the trip occupying ninety days. He had thus traveled from New York State to the Golden State with oxen, the time occupied when moving to Illinois being fifty-two days. After nine years of mining, during which time he made and lost large sums, Mr. Moore returned to the Mississippi valley. In the fall of 1858 he visited this town and bought two hundred and eighty acres of land on section 2, on which he settled next spring, and has dwelt here ever since. He also has forty acres on section 34, in Cascade, acquired subsequently. Mr. Moore's farm is one of the most handsomely situated ones to be found in the state. In the spring of 1883 he was elected a member of the board of supervisors, although his politics, democratic, do not jibe with the majority of the voters of the town. On March 19, 1859, Mr. Moore was united in marriage to Miss Adel Buehlen, daughter of a pioneer, whose biography will be found under the history of Rochester city. The names and birth-dates of their four children are here given: Frank, February 8, 1860 (employed in the Northwest Territory, home still here); May Adelaide, May 16, 1861; James Chauncey, January 9, 1863; Harlan Billings, February 3, 1867. The last three are all at home with parents now.

EDWARD B. DODGE, of Farmington, was born in 1849, at the town of Montague, Franklin county, Massachusetts. His parents' names were Harrison and Cynthia P. Dodge. When Edward was nine years old his parents removed to Minnesota, and settled on a farm in the town of Farmington. In 1872 Mr. Dodge was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Clark, of Cascade, the marriage ceremony being performed by Rev. Eliza T. Wilkes, a minister of the Universalist denomination. Mr. Dodge has a common school edu-

cation ; in politics he is a republican, and a farmer by occupation. In religious views he is a liberal. Five children have been born in the family, only three of whom survive.

GEORGE STEWART, Pleasant Grove, was born in Perthshire, Scotland, in 1816 ; came to America in 1842, stopping one year in New York city, thence went to Connecticut. Being a currier, which trade he learned in Scotland, he worked at his trade until he came to Minnesota in 1858. He located on section 5 in Pleasant Grove township. In 1857 he was married to Miss Lydia M. Basset. His brother-in-law, Robert Angus, came in 1854, locating on section 6, Pleasant Grove township. Mr. Angus died in 1881, and was also a native of Scotland.

EDWARD COHRAN, farmer, Rochester township, was born in County Kavanagh, Ireland, in 1825. He came to America in 1846, remaining in New York State until 1853, when he came west to Clarke county, Ohio. In 1858 he brought his family to Minnesota, locating on section 36, Rochester township. He was married in 1850, to Miss Margaret Maney, a native of County Clare, Ireland. Peter, deceased ; Edward, deceased ; Mary J., Elizabeth, John E., Joseph J., Ada V. and Nellie B. are their children's names. Peter, the eldest son, enlisted in Co. I, 6th Minn. Inf., and spent thirteen months in the service of his country. The family are members of the Catholic church.

MICHAEL BURNS, farmer, of Quincy, was born in County Kilkenny, Ireland, in 1822. He came to America in 1849, remaining in New York until 1854, when he came west to Kane county, Illinois. From thence he came to Olmsted county in 1858, locating on section 25, Quincy township.

ENOCH DICKERMAN, farmer, son of Samuel and Jane (Cilley) Dickerman, of Topsham, Vermont, was born September 5, 1830 ; married Betsey M. Rollins, of Orange, Vermont, February 2, 1854. The hills of New England being too closely set to allow the cultivation of large fields, he came to the prairies of the west and gazed upon the face of Viola in 1855 ; he brought his family to Minnesota in 1857 ; filed pre-emption entry on a quarter-section of land in the spring of 1858, and built a house — a part of his present residence — on the N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the N.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 4, in Viola. He has been a member of the school board almost continuously for the last seventeen years ; has assessed the property of the township four times, and taken its census once. He has over 300 acres of land, a good



stock of cattle and horses, the best farm implements to be obtained, and buildings that are substantial and models of convenience. His house is a perfect home, and all its surroundings are pleasant; "the old oaken bucket" hangs in the well; the towering hill, with its shagged brow of rock precluding; the morning sun's red glare; the limpid brooklet, in which sleek-haired kine slake their thirst, glides quietly past the door. The names of his children are as follows: Clarence E., Ernest L., Elwin H. and Enoch O. Dickerman, of whom the first three are living, and have apparently imbibed much of the benevolence of their parents. Mr. Dickerman is an accommodating neighbor and a good citizen.

EDWIN A. DOTY, farmer, was born in Monroe county, New York, 1833. In 1855 he married Mary E. Scott, daughter of Isaac Scott, a physician and surgeon of Monroe county. They came to Viola, April, 1858, settled on the southwest quarter of section 34, and soon opened their doors to the youthful philomaths of the new country, and became teachers in their own house. They are devout persons who embrace the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church, and make their lives to correspond with their professions. Their only children, Millard F. and Henry A. are worthy sons. Henry is attending the Winona State Normal School. Mr. Doty owns 245 acres of choice farming land with a neat set of buildings, worth about \$4,000, eligibly located. His father, Calvin Doty, a successful farmer, was born in New Jersey, in 1802, and is living within two miles of his son. Calvin Doty married Caroline Stowe, who was born in Massachusetts, 1807. Mr. E. A. Doty has been a republican ever since he came to Viola, and has always been considered fair in politics, and not likely to change for the sake of office. He was town treasurer several years and county commissioner one term. He is noticeably unostentatious in manners and dress, but always neat in appearance and courteous in deportment.

JAMES T. PRICE, farmer, settled in Eyota township in the year 1858, where he now is the owner of a fine farm consisting of 640 acres. Mr. Price has been very successful, both as a farmer and as a stock-raiser, the principal stock raised by him being sheep. For nine years after Mr. Price settled in Eyota he was obliged to draw his grain all the way to Winona, that being the nearest market to his farm at that time.

ABEL HANNON, farmer, was born in what is now Lawrence county, Pennsylvania, July 31, 1811. He is a son of Thomas

Hannon, who died of fever contracted in the United States service during the war of 1812, and Margaret Hannon *née* Morrow, both natives of Delaware. The youthful Abel attended the common schools of his native state and assisted his father on the farm. When twenty-eight years old he removed to Van Wert county, Ohio, where he was married January 19, 1832, to Martha, daughter of Alexander and Martha (Hannon) Copper. Mr. Hannon removed to Minnesota in 1858, arriving in Oronoco in June of that year. He bought a quarter-section of land on section 29, which he divided between his sons, and another quarter on sections 32-3, which he occupied until 1877. This he then sold, and bought the farm of his son, H. T., on section 29, where he now resides in comfortable circumstances. Despite his seventy-two years Mr. Hannon steps about as spry as a man of thirty. In January, 1882, occurred the golden anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Hannon, at the celebration of which were present four of their children, with ten grandchildren. Their household has numbered five children, as named below: Lorenzo D., born August 20, 1833, married Elizabeth Need, of Indiana, April 1, 1856, subsequently divorced, and married Mary Alden, of Dodge Center, Minnesota, January 1, 1881, and now lives at Minneapolis; Leander G., born March 21, 1836, married Sarah E. Smith, of New Haven, November 16, 1863, now resides on section 29, adjoining his father; Margaret A., born November 12, 1839, married Avery Brockway, April 3, 1856, and resides on section 30 of this township; David Alexander Hannon was born November 16, 1843, and died September 26, 1869, from disease contracted in the United States army, having enlisted early in 1863, in Co. K, 3d reg. M.V.I., in which he served until disabled; H. T., born April 10, 1847, and whose biography is given under the town of Rochester in this work. Mr. Hannon is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics he was a democrat until the war of the rebellion, but supported Lincoln and Grant for the presidency. The confidence of his fellow-citizens was shown in 1870 by making him a member of the board of supervisors.

JOHN G. HART (deceased) was born in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, July 13, 1813. When about twenty-one years of age he came west to Jefferson, Ohio, where he engaged in lumbering and milling. During the financial panic of 1857 his property was swept away, leaving him almost penniless. He came to Minnesota with

his family in 1858, and with his wife's assistance succeeded in regaining a part of his lost fortune. He was married in 1849, to Miss Phœba A. March, a native of Pennsylvania. Frederick E. (deceased), Laura H., Alfred R., James W., Milan J. and Albert H. are their children's names. Mr. Hart died June 13, 1876. The widow and a part of the family now reside one mile north of Dover Center.

EDWARD J. ROTH, Jr., member of the firm of Bonham & Roth, was born in St. Paul, August 28, 1857. Two years later the family went to Red Wing. His father, Henry Roth, is a Methodist minister, and has spent many years in the religious field. Our subject was married in April, 1881, to Miss Flora Bonham, a daughter of Jacob Bonham, Esq., and a native of Olmsted county. Edward J., is the only child, aged seven months. Mr. Roth and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

OLANS OLESON, wagon manufacturer, was born in Norway in 1825. He came to America in 1853, locating in Chicago; thence he went to Belvidere, Illinois, remaining until 1859, when he came to Olmsted county and opened a wagon factory, which has since grown to large proportions, under the judicious management of Oleson & Larsen. Mr. Oleson was married in 1853. Henry is the name of their only child.

HON. RICHARD A. JONES, attorney-at-law, son of Stephen and Isabel Jones, was born near Lafayette, Indiana, October 22, 1831. On the paternal side the family are of Welsh origin, and German on the maternal. In 1838 the family emigrated to Wisconsin, locating near the present site of Evansville. His father was a Methodist clergyman, and came west on account of poor health. He farmed after coming to Wisconsin until 1844, when he again entered upon his ministerial duties, preaching in Jefferson and adjacent counties until 1855. Our subject received his early education at Milton Academy, after which he entered the law office of David E. Wood, of Fond du Lac. In 1853 he went to San Jose, California, crossing the plains in a wagon. He remained in that state until 1859, when he returned east and located in Chatfield, where he resided and practiced until 1864, when he came to Rochester. He was married July 8, 1855, to Miss Sarah J. McClelland, a native of Pennsylvania, and who died May 25, 1879. McClelland K., now in Lawrence, Kansas; Richard S., Huron, Dakota; Isabel L. and Edith H. are the names of the children born to the couple. Mr. Jones is a Mason

of high standing, a popular citizen, and his fine legal ability is conceded by all.

ANDREW NELSON, drygoods merchant, was born in Norway, in 1837. He emigrated to America in 1854, locating in Wisconsin. He came to Rochester in 1859. In 1860 he obtained a position in the store of Henry M. Kellog, where he remained until the fall of



1862, when he commenced business for himself, in the block corner Third and Main streets. In 1869 he moved his stock into the Union block owned by Hon J. V. Daniels. In September, 1879, he again removed into the palatial structure which had just been completed by Olds and Fishback (according to Mr. Nelson's plans), and which is one of the finest storerooms in southern Minnesota. Mr. Nelson came to Rochester without capital, and by industry and enterprise has won for himself a place among the leading business men of the



state. He was married in 1859, to Miss Dora M. Nelson, a native of Denmark. Nora M., Albert R. and Lawrence A. are the names of their children.

ABRAHAM OZMUN, hardware dealer, was born in Tompkins county, New York, August 31, 1814. In the spring of 1856 he came west to Illinois, and in the fall of the same year came to Winona, Minnesota. Later he came to Rochester and located on a farm one mile west of the village. In 1859 he was elected to the legislature, where he served one term. In 1862 he moved to the city and embarked in the drygoods business, and later in hardware. The frame building he occupied was burned, and the one that now accommodates the immense stock was erected in 1872. The building is 46×115, and is two stories high with basement the full size of the building. In 1882 his son A. M. Ozmun withdrew from the firm, and is now a partner in a wholesale firm in St. Paul. He was succeeded by John M. Booth, and the firm is now Ozmun & Booth, who are doing a large wholesale and retail business. The subject of this sketch was married October 3, 1834, to Miss Electa J. Hedden, also a native of New York. The names of their children are as follows: Aaron (now residing in St. Paul), Mary M. (in Colorado Springs), Montgomery (also at Colorado Springs, Colorado), Ella E., Edward H. and Charles T. The Ozmun family are of Welsh origin, but the ancestors came to America previous to the revolution, the grandfather of our subject being a soldier in that struggle. He was taken prisoner at Fort Montgomery, and died in the notorious "sugarhouse" prison. M. A. Ozmun died at Colorado Springs August 12, 1883, and was buried in Rochester on the 17th.

GEORGE HEALY (money loaner), son of Ebenezer and Amia (White) Healy, was born in Cayuga county, New York, August 19, 1812. At an early age he turned his attention to civil engineering, which he followed many years. He was married in 1841, to Miss Theodosia Polhemus, also a native of Cayuga county, New York. The names of their children, all deceased, are as follows: Mary A., George P. and Sarah D. (adopted). Mr. Healy came to Olmsted county, in 1859, and financial prosperity has ever attended him.

HON. OLE JUELSON, was born February 12, 1829, in Valdres, Norway, and emigrated to the United States, 1850, and settled in Madison, Wisconsin, and moved from there to Mower county, this state, in 1853, where he remained six years, when he came to Rock Dell, and settled on section 10. He now resides on section 16.

Mr. Juelson was a member of the state legislature for the regular term 1881, and the special term of 1882. He has been chairman and member of the board of town supervisors for several years, and clerk of the district school-board. Was appointed postmaster at Rock Dell on June 2, 1865, but resigned two years later.

HENRY CURTISS BUTLER was born in Perry, Wyoming county, New York, January 25, 1828. His parents were William and Hannah Butler. His father was born in Oneida county, New York, and was one of the earliest settlers of Genesee county when it included nearly all of what is now Wyoming county, and purchased and improved a farm there when the entire country was a dense forest. His grandparents emigrated from Connecticut to Clinton, Oneida county, when that country was a wilderness. Their ancestors were among the early colonists of Connecticut from England. The subject of this sketch was brought up on his father's farm in Perry, attending the district school in his neighborhood winters, and working on the farm summers, until he was eleven years of age, when he entered the Perry Center Academy and continued there under the tuition of Rev. Charles A. Huntington until he was sixteen years of age. In September, 1844, he entered Hamilton College, in Clinton, New York, and graduated in July, 1848. He studied law in the office of Taggart & Wakeman, in Batavia, New York, from September, 1848, until May, 1850. In the spring of 1850 he went to St. Paul, Minnesota, arriving there June 1, 1850. While in St. Paul he was with Hon. William P. Murray, now city attorney of that city. In September, 1850, he went to Beloit, Wisconsin, and was in the office of Keep & Todd from September, 1850, until April, 1852. He was admitted to practice in the courts in Wisconsin at Janesville, March 21, 1851. From 1852 to 1855 he was engaged in farming and some business enterprises in Beloit. In 1855, having met with financial losses, he determined to resume the practice of law, and for that purpose located in Carimona, then the county seat of Fillmore county, August 9, 1855, being the third lawyer in that county. In November, 1859, he removed to Chatfield, where he remained until November 17, 1864, when he changed his location to Rochester. In 1866 he was appointed deputy collector of internal revenue for Olmsted county, holding that office until 1869. August 10, 1872, he was appointed register in bankruptcy for the first congressional district of Minnesota, holding that office until the repeal of the bankrupt law. November 2, 1875, he was elected county attor-

ney of Olmsted county, holding that office until January 1, 1878. November 5, 1878, he was elected judge of probate of Olmsted county, and re-elected November 5, 1880. He has continued the practice of law without interruption ever since the summer of 1855. November 30, 1858, he was married to Miss Martha J. Ward, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin. They have had three children, of whom two are still living. He has been junior warden of Calvary church sixteen years, and is a member of all the masonic orders in Rochester. As an attorney, the judge ranks among the first in the state. He is an inveterate student, has a clear logical conception of law, is strong in his convictions of right and wrong, and that his abilities are appreciated by his fellow-citizens is evident from the numerous positions to which they have called him. His demeanor is polished, yet a certain degree of cordiality pervades his actions. Endowed with numerous characteristics of worth, he possesses the well-merited respect of a large circle of friends.

JUERGEN FRAHM, of Farmington, was born in Germany, 1853. His parents' names are Henry and Anna C. Frahm. When Juergen was two years old the family emigrated to America, settling at Davenport, Iowa. The family remained at Davenport about a year and a half, when they removed to Winona, Minnesota. The subject of this notice continued to reside with his parents during his boyhood and youthful days, in the meantime attending the Rochester high school several terms. In 1865 the family removed to Farmington, and in 1878 Juergen was united in marriage with Miss Kate C. Raischle. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Frahm, all of whom are living. Mr. Frahm is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran church, and in politics he is a thoroughgoing republican. In the fall of 1871 he was elected to the Minnesota house of representatives to fill the unexpired term of Hon. J. V. Daniels, deceased, and the following year he was re-elected to the same position, which he now holds. He has served his town for several years as town clerk, and is the present incumbent of that office.

PATRICK MURRAY came from the east to Saratoga, Winona county, Minnesota, in 1859, and in 1861 purchased one hundred acres of land in the adjoining township of Elmira, Olmsted county, in section 24. In September, 1862, feeling it his duty to fight in defense of his country, he enlisted in the 9th Minn. Inf., Co. K, and in June, 1864, was captured by Gen. Price's command in Mississippi,

and had to suffer all the ills attendant on a ten months' imprisonment in rebel prisons. He was confined at Mobile, Macon and Andersonville; was paroled in the spring of 1865, and was mustered out in September of same year, when he at once returned to his farm in the north. In 1868 he was united in marriage to Miss Bell Hanna, daughter of John and Mary Hanna, of New York, in which state Miss Bell Hanna was born in 1847. By this marriage our subject has had three children: Freddie, born June 8, 1873; Clarence, January 19, 1878, and Mary, September 4, 1881. Mr. Murray has purchased in Elnira 840 acres of land, on which he has some very extensive buildings. The grounds surrounding his handsome dwelling have been laid out with much taste. Our subject was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, in 1838, and is the son of Patrick and Mary (Ryan) Murray. His father died when he was only one year old, and his mother, having come to America in 1847, died the following year, leaving her son at the age of ten to shift for himself. Mr. Murray, during boyhood, worked out on farms, and by economy and hard work managed to save enough to start him in farming in a small way for himself in 1859, since which time, by his energy and business tact, he has managed to accumulate an independence.

JUDGE RODERIC D. HATHAWAY, Pleasant Grove, was born in Seneca county, New York, August 27, 1826. His ancestry on the paternal side were English, and settled in New Bedford, shipbuilding being their avocation. Our subject was reared a farmer. He received his early education in the district schools and finally graduated from the state normal school at Albany. In 1850 he came west to Wisconsin, locating in Marquette county. Subsequently he was made county judge of Waushara county, acting in that capacity four years. He came to Olmsted county in 1859, locating at Pleasant Grove. In 1866 he served a term in the lower house of the state legislature. In 1869 he was appointed postmaster, which position he still holds. He has held several other offices of minor importance, and has taken an active and prominent part in public affairs. On August 30, 1859, he was united in marriage with Miss Lucinda I. Oakley, a native of Cayuga county, New York. The children born to them are as follows: Haddie H., now wife of Thomas C. Reedal of Rochester, Cora B. and Mertie I. The judge's family are members of the Episcopal church, and he is a member of the Masonic order at Pleasant Grove. He now devotes



his entire time and attention to his private affairs. He started out in life without means, and by successful financial management he has acquired a large estate.

ELIJAH HANKS, Rochester, real-estate dealer, was born in Lake county, Ohio, January 2, 1828. The family are of German origin. His father being a blacksmith, our subject was taught to use the anvil and forge at an early age. In 1857 he came to Minnesota, locating in Dodge county. In 1859 he came to Olmsted county, locating in Rochester, where he followed blacksmithing twelve years. Later he entered the real-estate and loan business. He was married September 3, 1851, to Miss Cornelia A. Martin, a native of Ashtabula county, Ohio. Arthur is the name of their only child. In 1862 our subject went to the frontier and aided in suppressing the hostile Sioux, where he had his first experience in Indian fighting.

P. H. FOOTE, son of Simon and Emelia Foote, was born in 1859, in Orion township, Minnesota. He lives on the old homestead on section 28. He attended school at Cummingsville in his youthful days. He then went to Rochester city to the high school for a number of terms. He is a farmer by occupation and a republican in politics. His father was one of the early settlers of Orion; he died about 1878.





A. OZMUN.



## CHAPTER XXV.

### BIOGRAPHICAL — CONTINUED.

#### OTHER PROMINENT PERSONS.

PROMINENT among the leading business men in Rochester is WILLIAM W. IRELAND, bookdealer. He was born in Tompkins county, New York, in 1845. When he was eleven years of age the family came to Rochester. Here our subject received his early education, taking the first course in a log schoolhouse that stood east of the river, and which now exists only in the memories of the early residents of Rochester. In 1864 he went to Chicago and took a course in Bryant & Stratton's Business College. In 1865 he returned and was for five years employed in the postoffice. In 1868 he embarked in the book and stationery business in Heaney's block, and now carries one of the largest stocks in southern Minnesota. Mr. Ireland began his business career with but little capital, and by excellent financial management has built his business up to its present proportions without assistance. He was married in January, 1882, to Miss Annie Kelly, a native of Maine. He is a member of the blue lodge and of the commandery, also of the Knights of Honor.

Among the most prominent of Rochester's professional men is WILLIAM W. MAYO, who was born at Manchester, England, May 31, 1819, and emigrated to America in early life. He lived for some time in New York city. From thence he moved to Buffalo, New York, and in 1846 moved to Indiana, and there completed his medical studies. He commenced practice in La Fayette, Indiana, and in the spring of 1854 received an ad eundem degree of medicine from the Missouri University. In May, 1854, he moved to St. Paul, Minnesota, and in the fall of the same year to Superior City, Wisconsin, and took a claim upon the land opposite the Bay of St. Louis, in Minnesota. He was appointed by Governor W. A. Gorman—then the territorial governor—as chairman of the first board of county commissioners of St. Louis county. The only act performed by him while holding that office was to locate the county seat of St. Louis county upon the claim and at the cabin of George Nettleton,



which location is now the city of Duluth. The doctor was also appointed by the governor to take the census in 1855. The entire county at that time, extending from the falls of St. Louis to Pigeon river, one hundred and fifty miles, contained only twenty full-blooded white men. These were all located along the line of the St. Louis river and Lake Superior, there being no settlers back in the county. After taking the census and having his claim successfully jumped, the doctor engaged with the Northwestern Exploring Company to search for copper-mining claims, and to put men upon them to hold the claims for the company. These men were paid \$30 per month and their board. During one of these explorations while out in the pine woods, the spicules from the fir-trees took fire from his camp-fire, and in the night, the wind having changed, the fire was brought down upon the camp, burning his provisions and camping utensils. The result of this accident was five days in the woods without food, and life was only preserved by killing a small spaniel which had been his constant attendant for months. During this life upon the lake shore he was in constant contact with Indians, and for six months saw no other people; having ample opportunity for observing their mode of life, the peculiar social relation of the sexes, the methods of their so-called medicine-men in the treatment of the sick, their religious ceremonies, although most of them professed Christianity, yet retained ideas natural to this tribe. Late in the fall of 1855 he returned to St. Paul. On his return trip he bought a birch-bark canoe up the headwaters of the St. Croix river, and in company with a half-breed Chippewa paddled and floated until his destination (Stillwater) was at last reached in the dreaded darkness of a midnight of storm on the third day of the trip. Thankful to return with a scalp, which twice he had been in serious danger of losing. In the spring of 1856 he moved up the Minnesota river and opened a large farm in Nicollet county, and in 1858 gave up farming and moved to Le Sueur, and again commenced the practice of his profession, which had been abandoned for over three years. In the year 1860 he ran a steamboat on the Minnesota river, in the spring at high water running from St. Paul to Fort Ridgely. As the water fell he ran his boat in connection with one of Commodore Davidson's boats, at that time commanded by Captain John Ransey, of St. Paul (lately deceased). One year closed out this steamboating, and he again returned to his profession. In 1862 he was appointed examining surgeon for Le Sueur county. At the commence-

ment of the Indian outbreak in the same year he helped to raise a body of about thirty men in Le Sueur to go to the relief of New Ulm. At New Ulm he was in all the fights with the Indians until the number of the wounded became so great that it was necessary to establish a hospital for their care. In company with Dr. McMahon, of Mankato, and Dr. Daniels, of St. Peter, hospitals were opened and the wounded cared for in the best manner possible. In the same year the doctor was appointed examining surgeon of the provost-marshal's board for the first district of Minnesota, at Rochester. In 1873 the doctor was elected president of the Minnesota State Medical Association. In 1877 he spent the summer in Europe, visiting the various hospitals. In April, 1882, he was elected mayor of the city of Rochester, and in August was nominated by the democrats of Olmsted county for state senator, but was defeated.

JOHN A. BARKER, real-estate dealer, was born in Bennington county, Vermont, in 1844. His early educational advantages were poor, but, by experience, he acquired a knowledge of getting on in the world. When thirteen years of age he came west to Columbia county, Wisconsin, where he hired out as a farm-hand. He afterward returned east, and for a time drove a canal-horse between Buffalo and Troy. In 1860 he again came west, and, with a few hundred dollars he had earned, purchased a farm in Haverhill township. He was for some time engaged in hauling wheat from Rochester to Winona and other points on the river. He used oxen as a motive power, and when night came he slept under his wagon. He now owns about twelve hundred acres of land, a half of which is in Dakota. He was married in 1861, to Miss Maria Schuyler, who died in 1877. Four children were born to them, whose names, in the order of their ages, are as follows : Bertha E., May, Augusta and Jay A.

GILBERT A. FRIZZELL, county treasurer, was born in Canaan, Essex county, Vermont, July 13, 1836. He received his early education in that county, and in 1851 entered the seminary at Tilton, New Hampshire, where he attended two years. In 1854 he came west to Portage, Wisconsin, and taught school eighteen months near that city, and afterward near Eau Claire until 1860, when he came to Minnesota. He was elected treasurer of Olmsted county in 1879, and again in 1881. He is an efficient and popular officer, and, as is indicated by his re-election to the position, has the entire con-

fidence of the people of the county. He was married December 14, 1859, to Miss Jane Morril, a native of Tilton, New Hampshire. Jennie S. and Lucy I. are the names of their children. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church; Mr. Frizzell and the eldest daughter are also members of the choir.

JOHN J. FULKERSON, grocer, was born in Augusta county, Virginia. When he was two years of age the family came to Olmsted county. Our subject received his education at Marion and Rochester. In 1875 he obtained a position as clerk for D. H. Moon, in whose employ he remained three years. In 1878 he became a partner with N. C. Younglove, and in January, 1883, he purchased that gentleman's interest and is now sole proprietor. Mr. Fulkerson commenced without capital, and his success has been remarkable. By energy, economy and enterprise he has accumulated a considerable amount of wealth, has placed himself on a footing to handle a large stock of goods, and has built up a very large trade.

TIMOTHY TEAHEN, farmer, Quincy, was born in County Kerry, Ireland, in 1847. The family came to America in 1851. The father of our subject began railroading in New York State, gradually working west, however, and landing in Minnesota in 1858. The family came to Olmsted county in 1860, locating on section 23, Quincy township, where our subject owns two hundred and sixty acres of excellent land. He was married in 1865, to Jane Cooper, a native of Ireland. Margaret E., Mary, Catharine and Angela are their children's names. They belong to the Catholic church.

HON. WILLIAM SOMERVILLE was born in North Sawickly township, Beaver county, Pennsylvania, November 25, 1819. He removed to Indiana in 1835, and married Rachel C. Cunningham, daughter of Robert Cunningham, October 6, 1842. He took an active part in the organization of the republican party; in 1856 was put on the "stump" to meet all opposition in the fourth congressional district of Indiana. He came to Viola in May, 1860, and took an active part in town meetings during the time of the late war. He was a charter member of the first Good Templars society in the town; served as chairman of supervisors three years, and was elected representative to the state legislature in the fall of 1872. He is the father of six children: Hester A., Luther E., Marilla J., Emma D., George W. and Lucina A. The second son is a successful lawyer in this state. Mr. Somerville and wife have been members of the Methodist Episcopal

church for about forty years. His father came from Ireland to America in 1793, and in 1798 married Margaret Wilson, who was born in Scotland in 1775. Mr. Somerville is a house-carpenter by trade, but has been engaged in farming most of the time since his marriage; he owns more than 200 acres of land with a good set of farm buildings and a fine orchard of apple-trees. He has devoted much time to the ornamentation of his grounds by setting out hedges and evergreens.

LUTHER E. SOMERVILLE, farmer, eldest son of the above mentioned Wm. Somerville, was born in Ripley county, Indiana, May 3, 1847. He came to Viola with his parents in 1860, made good use of the opportunities he had for getting an education, and when twenty years of age entered Hamlin University as a student and remained there two years. He completed the course of studies in the Minneapolis Business College in 1871, and taught several terms of school. He married Dollie A. Terry November 11, 1875. They have two children, Ethel and Dora. Mr. Somerville has been town clerk and is a member of the board of supervisors. His farm consists of 200 acres of choice land with suitable buildings, a good stock of horses, cattle and hogs, and is admirably situated. He is a republican in politics, and his industry, frugality and temperate habits insure success in every undertaking.

ABRAHAM JOHN GOODE, Pleasant Grove, son of John and Jane (Brown) Goode, was born in the town of Newburgh, Orange county, New York, in 1827. The family are of German origin. When he was ten years of age the family emigrated to Carbon county, Pennsylvania. Our subject came to Baraboo, Wisconsin, in 1849. In 1854 he went to Madison and Yazoo counties, Mississippi, remaining but a year and a half, when he again returned to Wisconsin. In 1860 he came to Olmsted county, locating on section 36 in High Forest township. In 1864 he enlisted in Co. C. 3d Minn. Inf., serving until the close of the war. His discharge dates September 2, 1865. During the war his family removed to the village of Pleasant Grove. In 1868 he located on the S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 2, Pleasant Grove township. He was united in marriage in September, 1851, to Miss Huldah J. Van Valkenburgh, a native of Cayuga county, New York. Their children's names, in the order of their ages, are as follows: Wilbur B. (deceased), Lucie E., Cora E., F. Edwin, J. Paul, Martha R., Mark S. and Jane E. Mrs. Goode and three of the children are members of the Disciple church at



Marion. Mr. Goode is a member of the I.O.O.F. at Rochester, having been a member of the order since twenty-one years of age.

JOHN D. RINDERKNECHT, farmer, of Elmira township, is the son of John and Rebecca Rinderknecht, and was born at Shepherdstown, Pennsylvania, on March 27, 1848, where he lived for three years. His parents then removed to Wisconsin, where he lived until 1860, when they again removed to Orion, Minnesota. Here they lived for a short time, then removing to Elmira township on section 19. Our subject received most of his education in Elmira. He bought the northwest quarter of section 18, in Elmira township, in 1874, where he now lives. He was married in 1876, to Miss Alice Potter, of Eyota. In politics he is a greenbacker.

RUSSELL WILLIAMS, teacher and farmer, is a son of Joseph and Hannah (Russell) Williams, of Sudbury, Rutland county, Vermont, where he began this earthly journey, December 19, 1814. Received his education at the common schools of his native place, attending Rutland Seminary and also a private academy at Westport, New York, for a short time. He began teaching school at the age of twenty years, which he continued for forty-three successive winters, the last seventeen in Minnesota, besides giving his attention to farming in the meantime. He served his native town as school superintendent, and also taught evening writing schools for ten winters and singing schools twenty-five terms. He was married November 12, 1840, to Lovina M., daughter of Benoni and Martha (Foster) Griffin, a schoolmate and companion from early youth, native of the same township. Mr. and Mrs. Williams are parents of seven children, as below: Roscoe B. was born May 21, 1845, and died January 24, 1849; Harlan P., born December 3, 1847, died August 18, 1850; Herman V., born January 26, 1849, died August 18, 1850; Erwin E., born January 6, 1851, who married January 6, 1872, to Alice, daughter of Almon Moulton, of Oronoco (who died December 24, 1874, when he again married, December 5, 1878, to Estella, daughter of Charles Phelps, of Genoa, and is now living at Beaver Creek, Minnesota); Edna J., born March 22, 1852, and now lives near Beaver Creek (having married Lorenzo Walker, of Genoa, October 22, 1868); Edwin R., born April 29, 1854, who now lives near Warren, Dakota Territory (and who married Olive, daughter of Amos Moulton, December 12, 1878); Joseph R., born June 3, 1856, still unmarried, who operates his father's farm and has a share in butcher business at Rochester. In 1846 Mr. Will-

iams removed from Vermont to New York, and in 1850 to Wisconsin. He came to Olmsted county in October, 1860, and purchased a farm on section 2 of the township of Kalmar, then part of New Haven. In the spring of 1867 he sold this and bought the farm on section 32 of this township, where he now resides ; being one hundred acres prairie and nine of timber. In religious faith Mr. Williams is a Universalist and active Sunday-school worker and supporter of preaching, whether of his own or some other faith. Mrs. Williams is a Methodist. Mr. Williams is an active republican in politics ; was supervisor in New Haven in 1863-4-5, and a short time school superintendent under the town system. On the organization of the commissioner's district comprising that township and the adjoining ones of Oronoco, Cascade and Farmington in 1863, he was school superintendent of the district until the inauguration of the county in 1865. He was town clerk in 1868, and is justice of the peace now, his service having begun in 1881.

GEORGE L. CLARK, farmer, is a son of George L. and Elizabeth Clark, of Weston, Oneida county, New York, where the subject of this biography was introduced to the world February 7, 1828. He was reared on a farm, and came with his parents to Dodge county, Wisconsin, in 1845. On June 22, 1851, he was married to Clarissa, daughter of Edward and Margaret (Annis) Baker. Has two sons, Ernest A., whose biography is given below, and Devincy D., born December 18, 1853, and who still resides with his parents and is engaged in farming and threshing, having few successful rivals in the latter occupation. Mr. Clark came to Olmsted county in 1860, and settled on the farm where he now resides on section 33, Oronoco, in the fall of 1882. He is of a retiring disposition, and has had no public experiences ; nor is he connected with any societies. In politics he is a democrat.

ERNEST A. CLARK, son of the above, was born in Adams county, Wisconsin, March 4, 1852. He came to Oronoco with his parents when eight years of age, and received his education in our common schools. He was married February 27, 1878, to Agnes, daughter of Henry and Jeannette Moulton, of Rochester, in this county. He has one child, Addie May, born March 10, 1879. Mr. Clark owns a farm of forty-seven acres on sections 32-3, where he now resides, and which he has earned by his own labor. He gives some attention to threshing in its season, in partnership with his brother, above mentioned.

OLIVER P. SHAFFER, farmer, High Forest, was born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, in 1826. His ancestry were of French and German origin. When he was quite young the family moved to Kent county, Maryland, and in 1853 came west to Stephenson county, Illinois. In 1860 our subject came to Olmsted county, locating on the southwest quarter of section 1, High Forest township. Early in 1865 he enlisted in Co. G, 1st Minn. Inf., serving until the close of the war. He was married in 1850, to Miss Angelina Stroud, who died in 1854. He was again married in 1856, to Miss Sarah J. Hartsough, a native of Seneca county, New York. Edgar, Charles, William, Angelina J., Elizabeth, Franklin, Emma E. and John are their children's names. Mr. Shaffer and wife are members of the Presbyterian church at Stewartville.

MATHEW J. MERRICK, farmer, Dover, was born in Kent county, Delaware, February 7, 1825. When he was eight years of age, the family came west, locating in Fayette county, Indiana. In 1856 our subject came to Winona county, locating near the city of Winona, and in 1860 removed to Olmsted county, locating first on section 26, and subsequently on section 21. He was married January 29, 1852, to Miss Mary F. Wilson, also a native of Kent county, Delaware. Martha E., Mary F., Sarah L., Lulu A. and Minnie A. are their children's names.

MARSHALL HICKOK, farmer, is a son of Carter and Catharine Hickock, the former a native of New York, and the latter of Pennsylvania. He was born at Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania, March 21, 1840. When he was but four years old his parents settled on a farm in Grant county, Wisconsin, where he grew to manhood, enjoying the educational advantages of the district schools of the locality. He married Harriet L. Presby, September 15, 1859, and removed the next year to New Haven, purchasing eighty acres of land on section 8, where he still resides. Here Mrs. Hickok died, May 5, 1874, leaving one child, Margaret, born January 14, 1868. Mr. Hickok enlisted January 14, 1862, in Co. H, 5th Minn. Vol. Inf., for two years, at the end of which time he re-enlisted and served till September 29, 1865. He took part in thirty-one engagements, great and small; was in both battles at Corinth, at the siege and battle of Vicksburg, Red River expedition, Iuka, Nashville, New Orleans, Spanish Forts, and Fort Blakeley on Mobile bay, etc.; served under the famous A. J. Smith, whose corps was distinguished for its gallantry and hard service endured. Mr. Hickok has also

done some civil service, having been constable of his town in 1872-3 and 1883. His political principles are republican; is a member of Pine Island lodge, I.O.O.F. He was married October 15, 1874, to Delia, daughter of Edward W. and Ruby J. Maynard, natives of New York. Four children blessed this union, as follows: Carrie, January 28, 1876; Marshall C., April 21, 1878; Edwin, June 28, 1880; Ruby J., July 25, 1882.

WARREN W. PRESBY, deceased, was a native of New Hampshire, the birthplace of his parents, Elijah Presby and Hannah Parker. His advent on earth occurred at Lyman, March 25, 1815. His life was that of the farmer's son everywhere. On April 18, 1837, he was united in marriage to Margaret Parker, whose parents, Phineas and Rebechah Streeter-Parker, were born in Lyman. In 1850 Mr. Presby went to St. Johnsbury, Vermont, and was employed in machine-shops for six years. In 1856 he removed to Grant county, Wisconsin, where he engaged in farming. Four years later he came to to New Haven, and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 8, where his family resides. Mrs. Presby united with the Methodist Episcopal church at fifteen years of age. After coming west Mr. and Mrs. P. became believers in Spiritualism, in which faith he declared renewed strength at his death, April 27, 1874. The deceased was a member of the I.O.O.F. during his residence in the east, and was always a member of the republican party. Four children were born to him, as here noted: Mary E., March 18, 1838, married Edward Bircher, in June, 1867, and now resides at Minneapolis, a widow; Harriet L., February 14, 1844, married Marshall Hickok, September 15, 1859, and died May 5, 1874; Warren E., June 27, 1856, was married December 18, 1880, to Alice Stafford, who died May 29, 1882, leaving an infant child, Alice Pearl, now with Mrs. Presby; Sarah Rebeckah, January 29, 1860, married Richard Lovell, January 1, 1878, and lives at Billings, Montana. Mr. Presby's widow received a paralytic stroke in March, 1881, from which she has never fully recovered.

JAMES RINDERKNECHT, son of John and Rebecca Rinderknecht, was born in Green Lake county, Wisconsin, May 16, 1852. He then came with his parents to Olmsted county, Minnesota, arriving there during the fall of 1860. He was educated in Olmsted county. Farming has always been his occupation. He was married January 8, 1878, to Carrie E. Potter, of Eyota. He now lives on section 13,



Orion township. In politics he is in sympathy with the greenback party.

CLARENCE A. WHITED, county auditor, was born in Huron county, Ohio, December 17, 1848. He received his early education at the high school at Fitchville. In 1861 the family emigrated to Olmsted county, Minnesota. In 1865 our subject returned to Oberlin, Ohio, and entered the Union Business Institute of that city, from which institution he graduated in 1867. He then returned to Minnesota, and was for sixteen months in the employ of Mr. C. W. Taylor, of Spring Valley. He afterward went to Blue Earth City, and was for a short time in the employ of Whalen, Case & Co., of that place, after which he returned to his former position in Spring Valley, where he remained five years. After which he returned to Olmsted county, and spent four years tilling the soil. In the fall of 1880 he was elected county auditor by a seven hundred majority, on the republican ticket, and was re-elected in 1882. Mr. Whited was married in 1875, to Miss Maggie Carlisle, a native of Fillmore county. Harry H., Jessie, Clarence C. and an infant daughter are the children resulting from the union. He has performed well the duties of the office to which he has twice been elected, and his actions as a private citizen have ever been characterized by integrity and a conscientious regard for right and duty.

WILLIAM BROWN, farmer, of Cascade township, was born in Dalhousie, Canada, in December, 1833. When he was two years of age the family removed to New York State, his father having died. In 1850 they came west to Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, until 1861, when our subject came to Minnesota. In the same year he enlisted in Co. H, 6th Minn. Inf., and was made second lieutenant. He served three years in the army. In 1867 he was elected sheriff, and re-elected two years later. In the fall of 1874 he was elected to the legislature, where he served one term. Mr. Brown was married in 1868, to Miss Adelaide Compton, a native of Cleveland. William C. is the name of their only child, who is now attending school in Cleveland. The subject of this sketch is a member of the A. F. and A. M., and also of the commandery at Rochester.

GEORGE A. GREGERSON, harnessdealer, was born in the city of Laurvig, Norway, in 1845. When he was nine years of age the family emigrated to America, locating in Walworth county, Wisconsin. His father died in Canada, having preceded his family. His mother died the same month, leaving four orphan children, of

which our subject was the youngest. In 1861 he came to Rochester and remained two years. He then returned to Wisconsin and learned the harness trade, after which he again came to Rochester and commenced business. He had but little capital, but has been very successful, and now carries a stock worth \$2,500, and employs three to five men. Mr. Gregerson was married in 1868, to Miss Anna M. Johnson, a native of Norway. Frederic O., Amelia M., Lulu E. (deceased), Flora A. and Lawrence E. are the names of his children. He is past grand master of the I.O.O.F.

ALBERT H. GRAVES, liveryman, was born in Fairfield county, Connecticut, in 1842. In 1861 he came to Rochester, and was for two years engaged in farming and teaching, alternately. In 1864 he and his brother embarked in the livery business. He was married in 1868, to Miss Mary B. Bliss, a native of Ohio. Fannie is the name of their only child.

JAMES ELIAS STANGELAND, born October 5, 1857, at Madison, Wisconsin, eldest son of the late Elias Stangeland, who at that time was editor and publisher of "Den Norske-Amerikaner," a Norwegian newspaper. Elias Stangeland emigrated to this country from Stavanger, Norway, in 1849, and settled first in Muskegon, Wisconsin, and was at one time commissioner of emigration of that state. He removed to Rock Dell in the spring of 1861 and bought a farm on section 8. He was inventor of the feed-steamer which was exhibited at the world's fair in Philadelphia 1876, and for which he received a medal and diploma. Died in Boston, Massachusetts, September 13, 1877, on a visit to that city. James Elias is a farmer by occupation and has held various local offices.

ALONZO FOSTER was born 1838 in New Hampshire, and is the son of Simeon and Mary (Hill) Foster. He attended public school and assisted his father on farm in New Hampshire till 1861, when he moved to Saratoga, Winona county, Minnesota. The war breaking out this year he at once enlisted in the 2d Minn. Inf., Co. A, serving till the close in the summer of 1865. He took part in the battles of Mill Springs, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, and was with Gen. Sherman in his grand march to the sea. In 1866 he married Miss Sophia West, born in New York 1839, daughter of Leander and Alta (Davis) West. They have five children. Elsie, born 1871, died same year; Wesley S., March 3, 1872; Alta May, September 16, 1874; Milton Lyman, December, 1876; Fenton J., June 24, 1878. In 1868 Mr. Foster bought three hundred and twenty acres

of land in Sec. 11, T. 105, R. 11, Elmira township, Olmsted county, and till 1877 lived in small farm-house, but in that year he built a fine limestone house 19×45, two stories high, also one of the finest barns in the county of the same material, 43×63. He has also a stone henhouse, woodshed, etc., and windmill. He is an extensive stock raiser. The windstorm of June, 1881, destroyed his barn and a span of fine horses, entailing a loss of over \$1,000.

SAMUEL WILLIAM EATON, the subject of this sketch, was born in Concord, Erie county, New York, November 7, 1815. His parents' names were Samuel and Nancy Eaton. Mr. Eaton was the son of a farmer, and his boyhood days were spent upon the farm. His educational opportunities were mainly limited to the winter and summer district schools, which at that time, and in a new and undeveloped country, were, in a point of efficiency and educational facilities, vastly inferior to the district or common schools of today. One academic term at twenty years of age closed his school life. Leaving the academy, he entered the office of the Cattaraugus "Freeman," to acquire a knowledge of the printing business. After being in the office nearly a year and a half his health began to fail and he left the business. In October, 1837, he was united in marriage with Miss Susan Rice, daughter of Roswell and Polly Rice, of Boston, Erie county, New York. The next summer Mr. and Mrs. Eaton emigrated to Berrien county, Michigan, whence, at the end of about two years, they removed to Rock county, Wisconsin. During their residence of twenty-one years in Wisconsin Mr. Eaton's principal occupation was that of a farmer. This, however, was varied somewhat for several years by his teaching several terms in district schools. Three or four years after his removal to Wisconsin he commenced preaching the gospel, as understood and promulgated by the Universalist denomination, and on December 24, 1860, at Princeton, Green Lake county, Wisconsin, he was formally ordained to the work of the christian ministry. However, he has for no considerable time ever followed the christian ministry as a profession or as a settled pastor. For the most part, he heeded and obeyed the scriptural injunction, "Six days shalt thou labor and do all thy work" on the farm, and on the "seventh day" he occasionally ministered in the pulpit. In the fall of 1861 he, with his family, immigrated to Olmsted county, Minnesota. During the first year the family resided on a farm, at the end of which time they removed to Rochester, their present home. Mr. Eaton, in November, 1862, bought of

W. H. Mitchell the undivided one-half interest in the Rochester "Republican," and entered into partnership with Mr. Mitchell in the publication of that paper. About two years afterward he resold his interest in the business to Mr. Mitchell and took a position on the Rochester "Post," as editor, the paper being then owned by Hon. D. Blakely. At the end of the year he retired from the "Post," when he and Mr. U. B. Shaver bought of Mr. Mitchell the "Republican," and, forming a business copartnership, Messrs. Shaver & Eaton published the paper about one and one-half years. Then the patronage and good will of the "Republican" was sold by the partners to Messrs. Leonard & Booth, owners and publishers of the "Post," Mr. Eaton taking a position on the latter-named paper as associate editor. It might be well to say, in this connection, that he has been for most of the time associated editorially with the "Post" from that day to the present time. In the fall of 1867 Mr. Eaton was elected as one of the representatives in the Minnesota legislature. At the general election in 1869 he was elected judge of probate and re-elected in the fall of 1871. He has, besides, served as city recorder, alderman, city justice, and is now one of the grand justices. As has been previously noted, Mr. Eaton's early educational advantages were, in common with the young of that age, extremely limited and inefficient, and whatever success he has obtained in the field of literature and general information has been acquired mainly by patient study and research during hours snatched from physical toil or much-needed rest. Mr. and Mrs. Eaton have been blessed with a family of five children, only two of whom are living. Two died in infancy, the other one at the age of a little over ten years. Politically he was, in his early manhood, a whig, casting his first vote for Gen. Harrison for president in the fall of 1836. At the organization of the republican party in 1856 he readily and heartily espoused the principles of that party, and through all the vicissitudes, adversities and achievements of the party he has invariably remained true and loyal to its principles.

ADDISON J. DIBELL, deceased, was born in Denmark, Ohio, October 29, 1818. He married Rosannah Rockwell, of Plymouth, Ohio, March 21, 1844, and settled in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, three years later. In 1861 he became a resident of Olmsted county, first buying a farm in Cascade. This he soon sold, and in 1864 bought the quarter-section on which the buildings composing Byron village now stand. A part of the village was platted by



him, and he remained one of its leading citizens till his death, which occurred May 16, 1874. He was a member of the Baptist church, and an ardent temperance advocate. The incorporation of the village was largely due to his efforts, as by this means saloons could be shut out. He was several years assessor. His political opinions were represented by the republican party. He was a public-spirited citizen, everywhere respected, and died universally regretted. His widow married R. Freeman, of Cascade, elsewhere mentioned in this work. They had two children: Mrs. C. F. Kesson, of Byron, and Mrs. Lucy Avery, of Rochester.

ROBERT C. BITNER, farmer, was born near New Castle, Pennsylvania, November 20, 1843. His parents, Thomas P. and Maria S. (Simonton) Bitner, were born in the same state. Both his grandfathers served the colonies through the revolutionary war. The paternal one, Jacob Bitner, emigrated to the United States from Germany previous to that conflict. The maternal grandfather, Robert Simonton, was of Scotch blood. Mr. Bitner became a resident of Kalmar in July, 1861. He has since resided in Nebraska, and in other parts of this state. On August 13, 1862, he enlisted in the United States service, and was mustered in Co. H, 6th Minn. Inf. He was with Sibley's expedition against the Sioux Indians in 1862, and afterward did escort duty on the plains. In June, 1864, his regiment was ordered south and placed on post duty at Helena, Arkansas. He was discharged in May, 1865, and has been since engaged in farming, most of the time in this township. On May 16, 1869, he was united in marriage to Miss Emma L., daughter of D. L. King. They have four children, born as follows: David P., December 18, 1871; Elva A., June 15, 1874; Charles R., May 20, 1876; Nellie E., January 16, 1878. Mr. Bitner is in harmony with the Methodist Episcopal church on religious questions. Politically he is with the republican party. During the three years of his residence in Murray county he served as clerk of Hawley township.

LEGRAND W. LULL, farmer, was born in Otsego county, New York, in 1832. He came to Minnesota in 1857, after which he worked at carpentering two years. In 1859 he returned east and remained a year and a half. In 1861 he again came to Olmsted county and began farming. He is one of Olmsted county's model farmers, being industrious and systematic in his labors. He now owns a fine farm of 240 acres near the village of Marion. He was married in 1859, to Miss Amanda Brown, a native of New York.

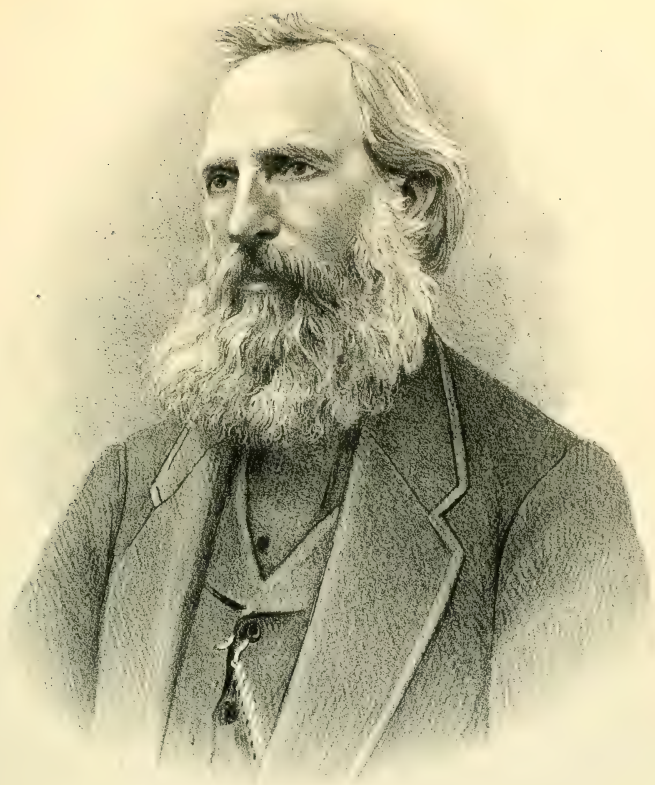
Howard A., George L., William B. and Frank E. are the names of their children.

ROBERT CUNNINGHAM was born May 4, 1797, in South Carolina; removed with his parents to Hamilton county, Indiana, in 1810; thence to Dearborn county, of the same state, in 1813; married in 1817; purchased government land in Ripley county, Indiana, and remained there forty years. He owned five hundred acres of land there, but sold out and came to Viola in 1861. His wife, Rachel (Dash), was born October 2, 1802. This couple have been members of the Methodist Episcopal church during their married life; have brought up a family of twelve children, two of whom, as ministers, have rendered valuable services in the Methodist Episcopal conference. Mr. Cunningham and wife attend church regularly, and we hope they may be able to do so for several years. He is one of the wealthiest farmers in Viola. They have thirty-seven grandchildren and sixty-one great-grandchildren, most of whom live in Minnesota.

ROBERT F. CUNNINGHAM, a son of the preceding, was born June 16, 1828, in Ripley county, Indiana. He commenced teaching school when nineteen years old, and for fifteen winters he was employed in this honorable vocation. He was the first male teacher in Viola, and during some of the terms taught in this town, he had forty-eight pupils and governed them without a whip, always. He was school superintendent of a district composed of the following towns in Olmsted county, Minnesota: Haverhill, Viola, Quincy, Dover and Eyota. He was Viola's first town clerk; has been a school officer continuously from the organization of the first district in town. He has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church from his boyhood, and has always taken an active part in church matters. His wife is a sincere, christian woman. He married Melinda Spradling, October 8, 1858, and they are the parents of nine children: R. L. M., R. J., Louisa J., Rachel C., Mary E., Flora A., Charles, Emery H. and Earnest W. Mr. Cunningham is an earnest temperance worker; and, in his church and temperance work, his aim is to convince the youth that there is true enjoyment in religion, and that one of temperate habits has the grandest possibilities within his reach. "Uncle Frank" is a host at a spelling-school or lyceum, and is always ready with an anecdote, both pleasing and instructive. He is a man of sterling wit and good sense; a Freemason and a republican. His farm of 240 acres of choice land is adorned by a set of buildings worth about \$3,000.

JOHN WHITED was born in Newburgh, Orange county, New York, February 19, 1823. When seven years of age he went to Perry, in that state. He attended school winters until the age of fourteen. From this time till the fall of 1840 he was occupied in driving stage. He then went to Norwalk, Ohio, and was engaged in packing pork for a short time. He then went to Monroeville and farmed for one year. While here he was married to Miss Clara A. Crane, April, 1845. In November, 1850, he with three or four companions took sail for California, in search of gold. Starting from New York city in the Ohio mail steamer, he crossed the isthmus of Darien, landed at San Francisco. From thence he went to Sacramento, commenced mining in the American river on Lacy's bar. After a fruitless search at this place he explored other mines in the Spanish flat. At this place gold was more plenty, having dug some days to the value of \$12. While here some difficulty arose between two of the miners, which resulted in the shooting of Mr. Bedbury. Our subject assisted in the capture of the murderer (Thompson) and the hanging him to the limb of a tree, two hours after the murder. Some time after this he went to Bear River. After "salting" his claim he sold it for \$500 to some Chinamen. About the last of May, 1851, he prospected around "Rough and Ready," thence to Auburn, and soon after formed a company of 500 and flumed the American river for four miles. They had only been able to work three days when a great flood came and washed out the whole flume; during this time they took \$1,700 from the mine, the last pail of dirt having \$250 in it. He now engaged in several enterprises, selling claims at auction, etc. In April, 1852, he became tired of paying \$1 per pound for all he ate, and returned to Ohio, where he was engaged till November 12, 1861, as farmer and veterinary surgeon, when he emigrated to Marion, Minnesota. His time was occupied here in farming and practicing his profession as veterinary surgeon. In 1866 he purchased his present farm where he now resides, respected by all who know him. Loren, Clarence A., Elli C., Oric O. and Hiram R. are the names of their five children, Loren having died when quite young.

ORIC O. WHITED, deputy auditor, Rochester, was born in Huron county, Ohio, January 20, 1854. He came with his father's family to Olmsted county in 1861. He received the rudiments of an education in his native state. At sixteen he was sent to Spring Valley, where he took an academical course. He subsequently



WILLIAM POTTER.





entered the state normal school at Winona. After completing a selected course in that institution he taught until 1873, when he went to Milwaukee and entered R. C. Spencer's business college, graduating in 1874. He was subsequently engaged in clerking and teaching alternately until 1881, when he was appointed deputy auditor. He was married in September, 1875, to Miss Clara Stevens, of Spring Valley. Bernard B. is the name of their only child. In June, 1883, he accepted a position as cashier in a bank at Fisher's Landing, Minnesota. He is an Odd-Fellow, and politically a republican.

JOSEPH MANAHAN, farmer, of Elmira, was born in Ireland during the year 1828. He came to America in 1848, proceeding to McHenry county, Illinois, where he lived for eight years, and received his education after he had attained the age of twenty years. Farming has been his occupation through life. He removed to Minnesota in 1855, and located in the town of Pilot Mound, where he lived until 1861. He then bought land in Elmira township, where he now lives. He now has a farm of 520 acres, and holds the office of town treasurer. He is a member of the Catholic church and in politics is a democrat. He was married January, 1856, to Catherine McArtey. There are ten children living.

ROBERT STARMER, farmer, High Forest, was born in England in 1830. His parents came to America in 1850, locating in Wisconsin. In 1861 our subject came to Olmsted county, locating on section 35 in High Forest township. In February, 1863, he enlisted in Co. C, 9th Minn. Inf., serving until the close of the war. He participated in engagements at "Briars Cross Roads," Nashville, Gun Town and Spanish Forts. He was married in 1861, to Miss Elizabeth Smith, a native of Canada. Their children's names are Charles, Robina (deceased,) Anna J., Mary, Ella, Minnie, Robert, Nettie and Mabel. He and wife are members of the Presbyterian church.

PATRICK E. FOGARTY, farmer, High Forest, was born in County Limerick, Ireland, March 18, 1848. He came to America with his father's family when twelve years of age, locating in Kane county, Illinois, where they remained four years, thence to Walworth county, Wisconsin, and to Olmsted county in 1861, locating on section 10, High Forest township. In March, 1865, our subject enlisted in Co. G, 1st Minn. Inf., serving until the war closed. He was married in 1878, to Miss Mary Griffin, a native of Canada, who died in 1882.

John, Michael and Patrick (deceased) are their children's names. He is a member of the Roman Catholic church.

CHRISTOPH KRAUSE, farmer, Dover, was born in Wolsko, Germany, November 22, 1835. In 1854 the family came to America, locating in Green Lake county, Wisconsin. In 1861 our subject came to Olmsted county, locating on section 27, Dover township, where by hard labor and good management he has accumulated a large estate. He was married in 1857, to Miss Julia Busian, also a native of Germany. The names of the children blessing the union are as follows: Frank O., Julia A., Charlie H., Hattie M., Orlin P. and Lydia C. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

CLARENCE V. FERGUSON, station agent, Dover Center, was born in Elmira, New York, June 29, 1854. When he was two years of age his father's family emigrated to Livingston county, Illinois, and in 1860 to La Crescent, Minnesota, and thence to Chatfield in the following year. Here our subject was for two years in J. C. Easton's bank. In 1873 he came to Dover Center, where he entered the employ of J. F. Smith in the capacity of bookkeeper, and also acted as clerk in the railroad office until 1878, when he was made station-agent. He was married in 1876, to Miss Alice F. Spiese, a native of Chatfield. He is a member of the A. F. and A. M. and chapter at St. Charles, and the Home Commandery at Rochester.

JULIUS BUSIAN, farmer, Dover, was born in Prussia, in 1834. In 1854 he came to America, locating in Marquette county, Wisconsin. In 1860 he came to Olmsted county, locating on section 28, Dover township. He is now a very prosperous farmer and owns 400 acres of excellent farm land. He was married in February, 1861, to Miss Wilhelmine Lietz, also a native of Germany. Emma, Ella, Julius, Alma, Melvin, are the names of their children.

GABRIEL B. HUFF, farmer, Dover, was born in Canada West, October 10, 1830. When nineteen years of age he went to Orleans county, New York. In 1852 he came west to Marquette county, Wisconsin. In 1861 he came to Olmsted county, locating on the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 8, Dover township. He enlisted February 29, 1864, in Co. C, Brackett's battalion, serving until May, 1866. He was married April 9, 1850, to Miss Sarah J. Beadal, also a native of Canada West. William, Ida, Sarah and George are their children's names. Mr. Huff is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and also of the A. F. and A. M. at Eyota.

WALTER S. BOOTH, author and publisher, was born in Litchfield county, Connecticut, September 28, 1827. He was the youngest child of Daniel and Sabra (Sherman) Booth, who were descended from ancient English families emigrating to America in 1640. He was educated at Newtown Academy and Trinity College, Hartford. He was married in 1848, to Miss Catherine Eliza Peter, of Kent, Connecticut, by whom he had five children. He taught classical schools, fitting young men for college, until 1855, when he first came to Fillmore county, Minnesota territory, for his health, and engaged in surveying and locating wild lands, and removed his family there in the spring of 1857. He subsequently studied law and was admitted to the bar at Austin in March, 1861. He removed to Rochester in October, 1862, taking charge of the Rochester "City Post," then owned by Hon. David Blakely, secretary of state, and continued in charge, with the exception of one year, until the close of the civil war. He then formed a copartnership with Capt. J. A. Leonard, and purchased the "City Post" of Mr. Blakely, and subsequently the Rochester "Republican" of Shaver & Eaton, the publishers, uniting the two republican papers under the name of the Rochester "Post." Within a few years the firm of Leonard & Booth built up one of the newsiest of local papers, having the largest circulation and influence of any country newspaper in the state. During the copartnership of eleven years, Mr. Booth wrote "The Justice's Manual" and "The Township Manual," which have since passed to the sixth edition and become the standard for the use of officers throughout the state. In 1876 Mr. Booth sold his interest in the "Post" to Mr. Leonard, to engage exclusively in the publication of manuals and township and law blanks, in which enterprise he has made a great success both in Minnesota and Dakota, publishing at the date of this work several law manuals and about seven hundred distinct kinds of legal blanks.

WILLIAM H. WHITE, farmer, Rochester, was born in Bennington county, Vermont, July 17, 1835. His grandfather was a soldier in the war of 1812. His ancestors were all American born, as far as can be traced. When sixteen years of age he began carpentering, and when twenty-two he came west to Wisconsin, locating in Green Lake county. In 1862 he came to Olmsted county. In March, 1865, he enlisted in Co. F, 1st Minn. Inf., serving three months. After his return he located on a farm in Farmington township. In 1875 he was elected county commissioner, but resigned to accept



a position in the legislature to which he was elected in 1876. He was elected sheriff in 1878 and again in 1880. He is a member of the A. F. and A. M., also of the I.O.O.F. He was married in 1859, to Miss Ellen L. Wicks, a native of Jefferson county, New York. Arthur P., Hubert C., Carrie E., Clara E., Fannie W. and Nellie D. are their children's names.

FRANK, son of Sybel Reade, was born in Rutland county, Vermont, October 2, 1829 ; when twenty-four years of age came to Dodge county, Wisconsin, where he taught three years, after which he removed to Adams county, Wisconsin. In 1862 came to Olmsted county and located in New Haven township. He was married in 1852, to Miss Mehala Griffin, also a native of Vermont. In 1872 he removed to Rochester, but is still engaged in farming. He and Mrs. Reade are members of the Universalist church. He is also an Odd-Fellow.

WAYNE BEARDSLY, harnessdealer, was born in Oneida county, New York, in 1834. When twenty years of age he came west to Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. In 1862 he embarked in the harness business, having learned the trade in the east. He now carries on one of the finest shops in southern Minnesota. Mr. Beardsly was married in 1863, to Miss Eliza O. Gilbert, of Fond du Lac. Three children were born to the couple, but death claimed them all. Mr. Beardsly and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

ADONIRAM J. WRIGHT, merchant, was born in the state of Pennsylvania. When he was a child his father's family emigrated to Whiteside county, Illinois. Our subject came to Minnesota in the fall of 1862, engaging in the grocery business at Rochester ; with the exception of five years, during which he acted as city marshal, he has spent his entire time in the mercantile business. He was married in January, 1858, to Miss Rosa A. Riely, a native of Troy, New York. Eva M., Frank E., William S., Hattie F., Harry S., Maud A. and Rosa M. are the names of the children born to them who are now living ; George B. and Freddie are dead. He is a member of the A. F. and A. M. and I.O.O.F.

JOHN MORRISON, farmer, was born in Ireland, in 1831. He came to America in 1852, first locating in Connecticut, where he worked at his trade (moulding) one year. He came west to Milwaukee in 1854. In 1862 he came to Olmsted county and started the foundry now owned by Mr. Livermore. He was married in 1862, to Susan St. Clair. Five children have been born to them, namely, Robert,

Susan, William, Annie and Walter. All are members of the Catholic church. Mr. Morrison now resides on his farm in Cascade township.

ENOR H. MILLER was born May 26, 1841, in Ashtabula, town of Monroe, State of Ohio; came to this town for the first time in 1857, and pre-empted 160 acres on section 23, but left shortly afterward, returning five years later (1862), and has ever since been a resident of the town of Rock Dell. Mr. Miller built the first frame house in sight of his place, bringing the lumber for the same with ox-teams all the way from Winona, sixty miles east. He sold at Winona at auction the first paper collars ever offered for sale in Minnesota, twenty-five years ago. Deer and elk were plenty in this vicinity at that time.

THEODORE BOSTWICK, farmer, Pleasant Grove, was born in Onondaga county, New York, in July, 1811. He emigrated from that state to Ohio in 1837, and subsequently to Lake county, Indiana. He came to Minnesota in 1862, locating on section 17, Pleasant Grove township. His first marriage was to Miss Emma Strong, who died in 1857. He was again married in 1859, to Mrs. Martha Snyder, a native of Essex county, Vermont. The names of the children from the last union are as follows: Amanda E., Ella S., Willie E. and George. His children by first marriage are as follows: John, Elizabeth, Edwin and Roscoe. Two of his sons enlisted at the outbreak of the rebellion, and spent a long term in their country's service. Mrs. Bostwick has also been twice married; her first children's names are Albert M., Elansen L., Martha J. and John (deceased).

THOMAS WILSON, farmer, of Quincy, was born in Union county, Pennsylvania, in August, 1828. When twenty-nine years of age he went to Knox county, Ohio, and from thence to Minnesota in 1862, locating on section 33, where he now owns 400 acres of excellent land. He was married in 1859, to Miss Mary E. Geddes, also a native of Pennsylvania. Their children's names, in the order of their ages, are as follows: James G., William F., Harry N. (deceased), George M. (deceased), Paul G., Thomas S., Mary E., Carrie G. and Earl. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson are both members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Dover.

HON. CHARLES T. SHELLMAN settled in this town in 1862. He was elected representative to the state legislature in 1873. His wife is a daughter of J. M. Fish, a prominent lawyer of Green Lake county,

Wisconsin. They have six children. Mr. Shellman owns 400 acres of land, and buildings worth \$2,500. He is a lover of scientific writings, and a man of practical and philosophical views. He was born in Otsego county, New York, 1834.

MR. THOMAS RICHARDSON, born in Topsham, Vermont, in 1805; married Orrilla Fellows in 1844; removed to Illinois in 1854, thence to Wisconsin in 1858, and settled here in 1863. He is the father of six children: Rodney, Dollie J., Robert G., Henry C., Willie H. and Charles F. Dollie and Willie died in 1863. The other children live about the old homestead, and own, in all, 740 acres of land and four sets of farm buildings, and still enjoy the counsels of their respected father.

FREDERICK RUCKER, farmer, was born in the kingdom of Würtemberg, Germany, June 21, 1814. He was married there in September, 1842, to Johanna Ruber. In 1862 Mr. Rucker emigrated with his family to America, and came direct to Oronoco, having friends and relatives here. The next year he bought 110 acres of land on section 10, and has ever since resided thereon. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Rucker includes five children, the youngest being a native of Minnesota, born as follows: Fredericka, December 6, 1845 (she is the wife of David Tibbetts, to whom she was united in May, 1866, and lives at Redwood Falls); J. Fred, November 28, 1848; Catharine, 1852 (who married Ans. Adler, October, 1871, and lives on section 8); Jacob, October 1, 1858 (who lives on section 4, and married Amelia Bobzien, January 12, 1882, and has one daughter); Martin, January 6, 1863, and who resides with his parents. The elder Rucker had but \$200 on his arrival here, but the scarcity of men caused by the war made it easy for himself and family to find employment, and he prospered, soon finding himself in independent circumstances. He relates that horses were so scarce on his first arrival here that cows were often employed in tilling the ground. Harvesting machinery could not be employed for the same reason, and he cut a large amount of grain for his neighbors with a grain-cradle. On becoming a citizen he espoused the cause of the democratic party. Himself and his sons are reckoned among the most exemplary citizens of the town.

J. FRED RUCKER, farmer, came with his parents, above named, to Oronoco, on June 22, 1862. He had received a fair business education in his native tongue, and attended the schools of this town, thus gaining a good knowledge of the English language.

This, with his natural intelligence and ability, has made him a man of much influence in the township and county. In politics he is independent, but takes quite a prominent part in public affairs. He takes a deep interest in public schools, and is always a member of his local board. He served as member of the town board of supervisors in 1879-80-81. He was married to Fredericka, daughter of Henry King, of this township, December 24, 1873, and is the father of four children, born to him at dates given below: Helena, December 22, 1874; Frederick, November 11, 1876; Edward, May 16, 1879; W. George, July 8, 1881. In 1872 Mr. Rucker bought the quarter-section of land on which he now resides, section 4, and built his present dwelling ten years later, and is now well situated. Himself and wife are exemplary members of the Lutheran church.

DAVID D. KIMBALL, hardware dealer, Dover Center, was born in Griswold, Connecticut, in 1835. He came to Minnesota in 1859, having received a good English education in his native state. He attended the state normal school at Winona two terms, and subsequently taught school a number of terms in Olmsted county. In the spring of 1862 he purchased a claim formerly owned by Mr. Blanchard, on section 4 in Dover township. He was married in 1860, to Miss Mary Young, a native of Ireland, who died in 1874. Lizzie M. and Jennie are the names of their children. In 1881 he embarked in the hardware business, being successor to Evans Brothers. He is a member of the Congregational church.

NELSON V. A. CROW, farmer and real-estate dealer, Dover, was born October, 1822, in Orange county, Indiana. His parents were both natives of North Carolina. When he was twelve years of age his father's family removed to Kane county, Illinois, thence to Linn county, Iowa. Subsequently our subject went to Wisconsin, entering the lead mines. In 1850 he went to California, crossing the plains by wagon, and spent two years in Nevada City mining, returning to Wisconsin in 1852. In 1855 he came to Minnesota, locating in Elba township, Winona county. In 1862 he came to Olmsted county, locating on section 13 in Dover township. He was married June 19, 1855, to Miss Amand Lane, a native of Pennsylvania. Sylvester T., George H., John W., Nelson M., Sophia (deceased), Willis W., Garrison A. and Edward V. A. are their children's names. Mr. Crow is a member of the A. F. and A. M. and chapter at St. Charles.

TIMOTHY HALLORAN, farmer, of Elmira, is the son of Florence and



Mary Halloran, and was born in the county of Cork, Ireland, in 1834, where he lived and worked on a farm till 1852. He then came to America, landing at Boston October 28, 1882, where he stayed for two years and a half. He then removed to Milwaukee county, Wisconsin, where he remained for one year and a half. He then left Milwaukee for Minnesota, traveling by rail to Galena and then taking the stage to the Wisconsin river, where Boscobel is now situated. The river he crossed in a skiff and went on foot to Prairie du Chien, where he took the boat to Winona; then proceeding on foot to Chatfield. From here he went to Pleasant Valley, Mower county, and located a quarter-section on section 20. He then returned to Chatfield, where he lived for five years. He was married December, 1858, to Catharine McGuira, of Chatfield. He bought on section 7, Elmira, in 1862, where he now lives, owning a farm of 480 acres. He was one of the supervisors of the town in 1878-9, and is a prominent greenbacker. He is the father of four children: Florence, Michael, Nora and Timothy.

DANIEL D. TOMPKINS, farmer, is the youngest son of Nathaniel Tompkins and Content Caniff, of New York, of English descent. He was born in Duaneburg, Schenectady county, New York, April 16, 1827, and has passed all his life in farming. He received the advantages of a common school education, and this, united with his natural talent, has made him a prominent and useful citizen. He was married in 1849, to Amelia Tryon, who was born in Broome. New York, in September, 1827. She died in April, 1854, leaving two sons, William H., who died when small, and Walter F., now at Egan, Dakota. The latter was born September 17, 1852. He resided in Dodge county, Wisconsin, several years, and visited this section in the year 1857. He came thence to Kalmar in 1862. He bought 160 acres of land on section 19, where he now lives, and subsequently acquired another quarter of the same section. He served as supervisor of the town in 1867 and 1868, and was assessor three years. He is an enthusiastic republican. His religious preferences are with the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he was reared. He was married a second time, on the first day of the year 1856, to Catharine M. Tryon. They have two sons and one daughter living, as follows: Mary A., April 20, 1858; Sam E., May, 1859; La Fayette, June 1, 1865. All are at home with parents. One of Mr. Tompkins's ancestors, Townsend by name, was an only

son, and was banished from England by his father because he married a servant girl.

GEORGE EASTWOOD, farmer, was born near the Rhine, in France, September 12, 1812. When about thirteen years old, his parents having died, he came with a brother to the United States, and was adopted by Jacob Harder, of Little Falls, New York, with whom he lived six years. Upon the death of Mr. Harder at the end of that time, he found employment on the canal, which he followed several years. He was married in 1837, to Caroline Wohl, who died eight years later; she left two sons, George and Albert, who now reside in Warren, New York. In 1847 Mr. Eastwood was a second time married, the bride being Sophia Chrisman. In 1862 he removed to this state, and bought a farm in the eastern part of Kalmar, where he dwelt till the death of Mrs. Eastwood, in 1871. He then sold the farm and lived a short time in Byron, after which he purchased the farm of sixty-five acres on section 32, where he lives. Notwithstanding his advanced age, Mr. Eastwood manages the farm and does most of his own work. His household affairs are in the hands of his two daughters, Delia and Julia, who reside with him. He is a member of the Byron Baptist church. He was formerly a republican, but is now a prohibitionist.

Among the many citizens of Olmsted county who have won well-merited distinction, Hon. CHARLES M. START, of Rochester, stands prominent. He was born in Franklin county, Vermont, in 1839, and received his early education in Bakersfield Academy. In the spring of 1858 he entered the law office of William C. Wilson, of that town, where he remained until 1862, when he enlisted in Co. I, 10 Vt. Vol. Inf. On account of ill health, however, he was discharged in December of the same year. In October, 1863, he came to Rochester, Minnesota. In 1865 he was elected city attorney, in which capacity he served until the fall of 1869, when he was chosen county attorney, which position he held eight years. In the fall of 1879 he was elected attorney-general of the state, serving until March 11, 1881, when he resigned to accept the office of judge of the third judicial district in place of Judge Mitchell, promoted to the supreme court bench. In the fall of 1881 he was elected for a full term of seven years. The judge was married August 10, 1865, to Miss Clara A. Wilson, daughter of Judge Wilson, his early legal instructor, and also a native of Franklin county, Vermont. Clara L. is the name of their only living child. Being endowed with

many admirable characteristics, as well as a high order of legal ability, his advancement in this his adopted state has been steady and permanent. The duties devolving upon him have ever been ably and honestly performed, and if called to a wider field he would doubtless leave behind him the same unblemished record. Of his father-in-law, Judge Wilson, we find the following in the Rochester "Post," in connection with his obituary notice: "William C. Wilson was born in Cambridge, Vermont, July 23, 1812. Securing an education by his own exertions, he studied law at St. Albans, Franklin county, Vermont, and was admitted to the bar at the age of twenty-three, after which he removed to Bakersfield, where he began to practice, making that city his home during the thirty-five years of his professional life. During that time he was elected to the following positions successively: state's attorney, county judge, legislature, state senate, and was also a member of the constitutional convention. In 1865 he was made judge of the supreme court of Vermont, which position he held until 1870, when he resigned on account of failing health, and removed to Rochester, where he resided until the time of his death. In early life Judge Wilson united with the Methodist Episcopal church, in which communion he remained during life, steadfast in his christian faith and loyalty. He died on Sunday, April 16, aged sixty-nine years and nine months."

LOUIS ZIMMERMAN, farmer, was born in Syracuse, New York, in 1841. When he was four years of age the family emigrated to Wisconsin, locating at Racine, where they resided sixteen years. In 1863 they removed to Olmsted county. In the winter of that year the subject of this sketch enlisted in Co. K, 3d Minn. reg., and was mustered out at Fort Snelling in September, 1865. He was married February 23, 1867, to Miss Louisa Grimm, a native of Wisconsin. Albert, Frank and Emma are the names of their children. He was for two years a resident of Rochester, during which time he was engaged in the drygoods and grocery business. He now resides on sections 9 and 10 in Cascade township. He is a member of the I.O.O.F.

FREDERIC ROMMEL, stockdealer, was born in Würtemberg, Germany, in 1842; came to America in 1856, and located at Fox Lake, Wisconsin. In the following spring he went to Chicago, where he remained two years, after which he returned to Wisconsin, and was in different parts of the state until 1863, when he came to Roch-

ester. In 1865 he and his brother formed a partnership in the butchering and stock business. Some years later they built the handsome structure known as Rommel's block. He was married in 1866, to Miss Mollie Frankhauser, who died in 1869. He was again married in 1870, to Miss Sophia Jansen. Freddie and Louis are the names of their children.

HENRY SCHUSTER, proprietor of the Rochester brewery, was born in Prussia, November 28, 1835. When twenty years of age he came to America, locating in Wisconsin. In 1863 he came to Rochester and opened a blacksmith-shop. In 1865 he bought the brewery owned by William Thresher. In the spring of 1871 the building, worth about \$8,000, was burned; about one-fourth of the value was covered by insurance, but a new building soon arose from the ruins. Mr. Schuster was married in 1861, to Miss Josephine Hohler. Henry, Fred, Bertha, Charlie and Martha are the names of their children. Mr. Schuster is a member of the A. F. and A. M.

JACOB GRASLE, stock dealer, was born in Würtemberg, Germany, June 1, 1834. When fifteen years of age he came to America, and located in Milwaukee, where he was engaged in shipping stock and butchering. In 1863 he came to Olmsted county, and engaged in stock-raising and shipping. He now owns a large stock-farm of eleven hundred acres in Kalmar township, and is perhaps one of the largest dealers in the state. Mr. Grasle was married when twenty-two years of age, to Miss Caroline Weldt, a native of Germany. Jacob L. is the name of their only living child. He is a prominent member of the I.O.O.F. at Rochester.

MR. E. H. DERBY, a native of New York, settled in Viola, on section 29, in the fall of 1863. He has a farm of 480 acres of choice land, and intends to reside here the remainder of his life. As a drover he has seen a great deal of Wisconsin and Minnesota, and declares that Olmsted county is without an equal, within his knowledge, for farming purposes. He married Jane L. Shellman, September 29, 1861.

HON. C. A. BUTTERFIELD was born in Farmington, Maine, June 12, 1827. He was a student in Farmington Academy three or four years, and taught school three winters before arriving at the age of twenty years, about which time he was engaged as clerk in a wholesale and retail West Indies goods store, in Boston, Massachusetts, and held that situation six years, then learned the machinist's trade. September 11, 1855, he married Sophia M. Jenkins, of



Boston, and in 1861 they removed to Sandusky, Ohio, where he was employed at his trade until their removal to Viola in 1868. He purchased his farm in Viola in 1863. Mrs. Butterfield's parents were born in Boston, and her father held an office of trust there to which he was elected annually for twenty years in succession. Her maternal grandmother was an eyewitness of the battle of Bunker Hill. Mrs. Butterfield is highly esteemed, by all her acquaintances, for her friendliness, sociability and cheerfulness; and a spelling-school, festival, religious meeting or funeral at the town hall without her for organist would be exceptional. Mr. Butterfield was town clerk for nearly ten consecutive years, and in the fall of 1880 he was elected representative to the Minnesota legislature. His life has been, and doubtless will always be, one of goodness and constant improvement. His ideas upon politics and religion are decidedly philosophical; and though he and his wife are Baptists in faith they contribute generously to the support of other religious denominations, and Mr. Butterfield has been superintendent of a union Sunday-school for several years last past. His father, Henry Butterfield, was born in Farmington, Maine, September 11, 1799, and married Martha W. Bullen, December, 1823. He removed to Concord, New Hampshire, in 1851; thence to Viola in 1864. His occupation has always been farming, and he is tolerably active. Hon. C. A. Butterfield is the father of two children. Lottie M. and Howard A., both of whom are highly creditable to their parents. He has been a Mason and member of St. Paul's lodge, of Boston, since 1854. He is a republican in politics, a judicious, adviser and a peacemaker.

GEORGE W. WIRT, miller, is a son of Rev. Noah Wirt, a well-known minister of the "Church of the Disciples," in Ohio, Wisconsin and Minnesota, whose biography is elsewhere given in this work. The subject of this sketch began his earthly career in Lake county, Ohio, December 22, 1828. His father owned and operated a mill near Willoughby, Ohio, and was assisted by his son from the time the latter was twelve years old, during hours not given to school. His education was finished at the Kirtland high school. In 1847 Rev. Noah Wirt removed with his family to Waupun, Wisconsin, where young George continued his calling with his father and brother-in-law, A. D. Allis. During the year 1853 he was united in marriage to Sarah, daughter of John Wolcott, of Pleasant Valley, Ohio, who was a faithful wife and mother, but who died on

the first day of the year 1883. Her remains are interred in Center Grove cemetery, near Douglas. Mr. and Mrs. Wirt were blessed with two children: John, born September 8, 1853, and Mary, born April 19, 1860. The latter was married December 30, 1880, to Burns Crabb, and still resides with her parents. At eighteen years of age Mr. Wirt was received into membership of the Disciples' church, and has served as a deacon of that organization ever since he was thirty years old. He is a charter member of the Oronoco lodge, I.O.O.F. In politics he has always been a republican. He served as county commissioner from 1868 to 1874, and was chairman of the town board in 1867 and 1876. Mr. Wirt's residence in Oronoco dates from the spring of 1863, at which time he purchased a farm in the township, and also a half-interest in the flouring-mill here, in partnership with the present owner, A. D. Allis. He shortly sold his mill interest to his partner, but managed the operation of the mill until its destruction in 1879. In 1868 he purchased the farm on which he resides, on section 18, and is at present in independent circumstances. In 1873 Mr. Wirt had his ankle broken by a runaway accident, and has never fully recovered from the injury. He has rescued several persons from drowning in the course of his life, and narrowly escaped death at fifteen years of age while saving a man from the waters of the Chagrin river.

ABRAHAM D. ALLIS, farmer and manufacturer, was born in Burlington, Otsego county, New York, March 1, 1828. His father was Benjamin Allis, a native of Pennsylvania, and his mother was Susan, a daughter of Jeremiah Pratt, one of the pioneers of Otsego county, who lived to the ripe age of ninety-eight. They removed to Niagara county, in the same state, when Abraham was a mere child, and he received his education in the common schools of that locality. When he was sixteen years old they again removed to Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, where the subject of this sketch earned eighty acres of land by chopping cordwood at 25 cents per cord. This he subsequently sold, and in 1849 went to California, crossing the plains with oxen. Two years' stay there enabled him to earn \$14,000, of which five-sevenths was sunk in developing invaluable mining prospects, and he returned to Wisconsin, settling at Waupun, and there engaged in the manufacture of wagons, carriages and sleighs, and built up an extensive business. On December 13, 1853, Mr. Allis was united in marriage to Mariah, daughter of Rev. Noah Wirt, of Waupun. This union has been blessed with

six children, two of whom died in infancy. They were: May Maria, born May 20, 1856, died December 18, 1861; Fred D., born April 19, 1858 (who still resides with his parents); Maud, born March 29, 1864, died July 9, 1865; Blanche G., born September 25, 1868; Roy W., born September 20, 1874; Mary S., born August 18, 1880. In 1863 Mr. Allis went in partnership with George W. Wirt, bought the mill property at Oronoco, and, closing out his business at Waupun, removed here, and has since made this his home. A farm, purchased at the same time as the mill, was soon exchanged for Mr. Wirt's interest in the mill. In 1873, needing more capital, Messrs. A. Gooding and D. S. Hebbard, of Rochester, were admitted to partnership with Mr. Allis, and a large mill built on the power with eight runs of stone, to which three sets of rolls were soon added, and a very extensive merchant milling business conducted. On November 25, 1879, the mill was totally destroyed by fire, with 30,000 bushels of wheat, inflicting a loss of \$90,000 and nearly crushing the firm. Mr. Allis then purchased the interest of his partners and is gradually rebuilding, as his means will allow. A small grist-mill now occupies the site, and additions are contemplated at an early day. The proprietor also owns two other powers on the same stream in this township, including 1,200 acres of land, and his indomitable energy and courage will soon lead to their improvement. Mr. Allis is a member of Rochester lodge, A. F. and A. M.; has been an enthusiastic republican since the organization of that party, and an ardent temperance advocate. Was chairman of the town board of supervisors in 1870, and stands high in the esteem of his fellow citizens.

WILLIAM S. BUSH, farmer, is descended from natives of Connecticut and New York, William Bush and Sarah Pearsall. The subject of this sketch was born in the town of Oxford, Chenango county, New York, May 4, 1825. He was reared on a farm there, attending the district schools and spending two years at Oxford Academy. On reaching his majority he went to Columbus, Wisconsin, where he engaged in farming. In September, 1850, he married Miss Harriet E. Peckham, of New York parentage; her father being John A. Peckham and her mother Aurilla *née* Snead. In March, 1858, Mr. Bush went with a party of friends to Pike's Peak, then the *El Dorado* of many hopes. After spending eight months in working a mining claim, from which every dollar wrested cost a dollar and a quarter, he returned to his farm in Wisconsin, a poorer

and a wiser man. In October, 1863, he removed to this township, and bought eighty acres of land on section 30, which has ever since been his home. He has never sought to mingle in the management of public matters, but has always taken an interest in schools, and has served his present school district as treasurer. He has always been a republican, but is not a member of any religious body. Mrs. Bush is a member of the Advent church. Two children have been born to this family, as follows: George C., June 29, 1853, married Miss Rena Tennison, and resides at New Haven; Mary J., April 4, 1864, lives with her parents.

ELISHA GORTON, farmer, is a son of Elisha B. Gorton and Sarah Trumbull Isham, who were reared and married in Connecticut, and settled near Utica, New York. The subject of this sketch was born in North New Berlin, Otsego county, July 1, 1826, and was educated in the city schools of Utica, where his parents lived from the time he was one year old. Nineteen years of his life were spent on the canal, for ten years of which time he was commander of a packet. On December 27, 1854, he married Sarah, daughter of John and Nancy (Myers) Walker, natives of New York. In the fall of 1855 Mr. Gorton became a resident of Minnesota, spending the winter in Fillmore county, then removing to Rochester. He returned to New York in 1857, having first pre-empted 160 acres of government land on section 25 of this township, which is still his home. In the fall of 1863 he again took up his home in Minnesota, and has since resided on this farm, except five years at different intervals spent in New York, where he had business interests. In 1861 Mrs. Gorton came to Minnesota to look after her husband's land, he being at the time compelled by business engagements to remain in New York; while here Mrs. Gorton filled her leisure time in teaching, which was her occupation before marriage. Beside the three terms then taught in this county, she taught the first term in their present school district, in the winter of 1876-7. Mr. Gorton has also been active in school matters, although childless, and has served on the school board since its organization. His political principles are republican. Mrs. Gorton is an active member of the Seventh-day Advent church, in which she has been a member for eighteen years; she was connected with the Methodist Episcopal church, that of her parents, for sixteen years previously. This worthy couple is taking the place of parents to a niece of Mrs.



Gorton, Nellie Elizabeth Walker, born August 7, 1875, her mother having died March 27, 1876.

JOHN B. HENDRICKS, merchant, Dover Center, was born in Franklin county, Vermont, in 1830. When twenty-one years of age he came to Wisconsin, locating at Grand Rapids, thence to Clayton county, Iowa, and subsequently to Pleasant Grove in 1854, where he entered a claim on section 34. For a number of years after he was engaged in carpentering. In 1860 he began merchandising, and three years later removed to Chatfield, where he aided in building the first hotel. He resided there until 1875, when he came to Dover, where he now carries on an extensive business in drygoods and groceries. He was married in 1858, to Miss Cecilia White, sister of Hon. Milo White, of Chatfield; Hudson B., Cora C., Frank L., Abbie E., May E. and Carrie B. are the names of their children. Mr. Hendricks came to Minnesota without capital, and by his own effort has accumulated a large estate.

GILBERT BERTRY, farmer, Dover, was born in Genesee county, New York, December 5, 1830. In the spring of 1850 he came west to Greenlake county, Wisconsin. In 1855 he went to California, where he spent two years mining. He came to Olmsted county in 1863, locating on section 8, Dover township. He was married in November, 1857, to Miss Rebecca A. Bedal, a native of Canada. Gilbert H., Ida (deceased), Elbridge and Charlie are their children's names.

REV. TERTIUS REYNOLDS (deceased). This pioneer was a son of Jonathan and Martha Reynolds, who were born at Plymouth, Connecticut. Here our subject was born March 29, 1800. At fifteen years of age he united with the Congregational church, and after graduating at Amherst College and pursuing a subsequent theological course at Auburn, began preaching at twenty-five. On June 1, in his thirtieth year, he married Miss Eliza Talbott, a daughter of George and Elizabeth (Ward) Talbott, natives of Massachusetts. He followed his calling in various parts of New York, and was located twenty years at Fairfax, Vermont. Being compelled to abandon preaching on account of poor health, he came to New Haven and purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land on sections 10 and 11, where he continued to reside till his death, which occurred June 25, 1863. Mr. Reynolds was an ardent republican, but took no active part in political affairs. His family numbered five children, several of whom are still living in this locality. Martha E., the

eldest, was born May 31, 1831, and now resides on section 10 ; Edward Payson, was born March 19, 1833, at Moira, New York, and was one of the pioneer settlers of this town, having made a claim to one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 4, now occupied by S. W. Miller, in the fall of 1855; enlisted August 9, 1862, in Co. D, 93d Ill. Vols., and died in hospital at Memphis, March 12, 1863; Mary P., born May 1, 1835, married Solomon Jewell, January 12, 1860, and resides in Pine Island ; Sarah L., died at one year old ; Abbey S., March 11, 1843, married Salem W. Miller, February 23, 1860, and lives on section 4, as above noted.

WILLIAM O. CRITTENDON, farmer, Dover, was born in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, November 13, 1844. When he was twelve years of age the family came to Fond du lac county, Wisconsin. In April, 1861, they came to Minnesota, locating near Plainview, thence to Olmsted county in 1863. They removed to Rochester in 1867, and to Dover township in 1874, locating northwest of the village of Dover Center. His brother Alfred enlisted in August, 1864, in Co. I, 11th Minn. Inf., serving eleven months.

THOMAS H. TITUS, cashier of the Union National Bank, was born in Phelps, Ontario county, New York, August 17, 1842. When he was thirteen years of age his father's family emigrated to Illinois, and located in Batavia. Later they removed from that city to Lenora, Fillmore county. He was afterward employed in a bank at Chatfield. In October, 1864, he came to Rochester and entered the First National Bank as cashier. In 1874 he resigned on account of ill health, and was engaged in other pursuits until 1879, when he entered the Rochester National Bank, in which institution he acted as cashier until January 1, 1882, when he entered the Union National Bank in the same capacity. Both as a business man and a citizen Mr. Titus is highly respected. He is kind and genial, besides possessing many other attributes of real worth which will make him popular in whatever capacity he may appear before the public. He was married December 1, 1864, to Miss Hattie Armstrong, a native of Addison county, Vermont. Mary W. and Clara A. are the names of their children. Both Mr. and Mrs. Titus are members of the Presbyterian church.

MARTIN V. ROWLEY, blacksmith, was born in Steuben county, New York, March 8, 1838. When nine years of age he went to Knox county, Ohio, remaining one year, and from thence to Wisconsin. In 1864 he came to Rochester and opened a blacksmith

shop, having learned that trade in New York State. For a number of years he employed five men and did a flourishing business. Mr. Rowley was married when eighteen years of age to Miss Nancy Wilson, also a native of New York State. The names of their children are as follows: Charles M. (a merchant in Volga, Dakota), John M. (in the employ of Fest & Knowlton), William H. (residing near Rochester on a farm), Julia A., Sarah B. and Norman G. He is a member of the A.O.U.W.

JOHN F. GRIMM, butcher and stock dealer, was born in Marion county, Ohio, October 2, 1842. Four years later the family emigrated to Wisconsin, locating near Beaver Dam, where they remained about sixteen years. In 1864 they came to Olmsted county, locating on a farm in Cascade township. In 1879 our subject came to Rochester and opened a meat market on the corner of Broadway and Fifth streets. He was married in 1871, to Miss Amelia Hensler. Nellie, Emma, Edward, Stella and Burt are the names of their children. He is a member of the I.O.O.F.

JOHN M. MORTON, farmer, was born in Chautauqua county, New York, in 1843. In the spring of 1864 he came to Minnesota. Later he enlisted in Co. I of the 1st Minn. Int., and served until the close of the war, after which he took a course in the state normal school at Winona. After completing his studies he taught several terms. Mr. Morton was married in 1870, to Miss Matilda G. Cunningham, a native of New York. May is the name of their only child.

ISAAC ROBERTSON, dealer in machinery and implements, was born September 22, 1831, at Aberdeenshire, Scotland. When twenty-six years of age he came to America and located in Ashland county, Ohio, where he began working at his trade (carpentering), which he learned in Scotland. He remained there seven years, at the end of which time he came to Rochester, Minnesota, and was employed by George W. Payne. In 1873, in company with his brother, he embarked in the machinery business. He was married in 1872, to Miss Johanna Maloney. William is the name of only child living. Our subject is a member of the A.O.U.W., and is now master workman of lodge No. 23.

PETER HOGANSON was born September 21, 1834, in Hardanger, Norway, and emigrated to the United States in July, 1854, when he settled in Boone county, Illinois, and moved to Rock Dell in 1864, having in the meantime been in California. He was member of the town board for one term and has been assessor for fifteen years, also

member of the board of county commissioners for three years, from 1872 to 1875, and is at present, and has been almost ever since he came to the town, treasurer of school district No. 91. Mr. Hogganson is treasurer of the Mutual Fire Insurance Association of Vernon, Minnesota, which association was organized in 1876, reorganized in 1879, and comprises the towns of Vernon and Canisteo, Dodge county, and Salem and Rock Dell, Olmsted county.

HON. MARCUS WING was born December 7, 1841, in the town of Webster, Washtenaw county, Michigan, and emigrated to this state from Wisconsin (Portage city) in the year 1864, and settled on section 17, town of Rock Dell. Mr. Wing represented the ninth district in the house of representatives of this state in the year 1873, and also in 1877. He is at present chairman of the board of supervisors of his town, of which he has been a member for several years. He served as justice of the peace about seven years, and was appointed postmaster in Rock Dell in 1869, which office he finally resigned nine years later. Since he came to the town Mr. Wing has been almost continually a member of the district school board.

SAMUEL L. JENKS, farmer, of Quincy, was born in Genesee county, New York, in 1836. Subsequently the family moved to Pennsylvania, remaining ten years, thence to Walworth county, Wisconsin. Our subject came to Olmsted county in 1864, locating on section 8. He was married in 1860, to Miss Alice A. Leach, a native of New York. Mark E., Edith M. and Vanil are their children's names. Mr. Jenks is a member of the Masonic lodge at Plainview.

ALBERT FARNHAM, farmer, is one of a family of ten children, all of whom are now living. His father, J. E. Farnham, was a native of New York, and his mother, whose maiden name was Rachael McDermond, was of Nova Scotia origin. Albert Farnham was born at Charlottesville, in the township of Walsingham, Province of Ontario, July 9, 1840. His father was a farmer, and made several removals, living six years near Portage City, Wisconsin, where the subject of this sketch received some practical education at a private school. In 1857 his parents settled in Dodge county, this state, where he assisted in opening up a farm. In November, 1862, Mr. Farnham enlisted in the Minnesota Mounted Rangers, and served thirteen months in quelling the Indians on the frontier. December 16, 1867, he married Edith A., daughter of Col. Jas. George, whose biography is given elsewhere. They have four promising children,



born as follows : George A., March 7, 1869; Clinton E., March 5, 1870; Edith, December 26, 1871; John E., September 24, 1876. Mr. Farnham is an independent democrat in politics. From 1856 to 1862 he made his home in Columbia county, Wisconsin. After his service in the army, in partnership with his brother he bought eighty acres of land on section 9, New Haven. In 1877 he moved to Rochester, where he resided three years. Since 1880 he has lived on his present farm, on section 19, Oronoco.

LEMUEL L. MUTCHLER, deceased. The subject of this sketch was of Dutch descent ; his parents, John Mutchler and Mary Metz, were born in New Jersey. They settled in Harmony, Warren county, that state, where our subject was born, May 19, 1826. At nineteen years old he engaged at wheelwright work, and acquired the trade. He married Sarah A. Carpenter, August 29, 1846. His wife was also of Dutch descent, her parents, Joseph Carpenter and Christiana Sharp, being natives of New Jersey. In April, 1863, Mr. Mutchler migrated west, and located in Dane county, Wisconsin, following his trade and also engaging in building operations. In 1864 he removed thence to New Haven, where he could procure land for his growing family of boys, arriving here June 10. The following year he purchased eighty acres of land on section 31, to which forty acres more were added subsequently, and this domain still constitutes the home of his widow and younger offspring. In February, 1865, Mr. Mutchler enlisted as a recruit in Co. K, 1st Minn. heavy artillery, and served in garrison at Chattanooga till the following October. He was a republican in political principle, and his energy and intelligence soon came to be demanded in the management of the town affairs. He was a member of the board of supervisors in 1867-8-9-70-5-7-9, being chairman of that body in 1870. He was a member of the Wesleyan Methodist church. On returning from military service Mr. Mutchler continued to ply his trade, while the land was tilled by his sons. While at work in Dakota, in 1881, he inflicted a cut on his hand with a hatchet, through neglect of which he contracted a cold, resulting in a fever, from which he died September 23 of that year. Out of a large family of children but five survive him to mourn their own and the community's loss. Their record is here given : Irving, married Elizabeth Benton, and lives at Huron, Dakota; Arthur, married Emma Porter, and resides on the homestead; William L., lives at Huron; Austin

and Tracy, reside with their mother, both being under age. Arthur Mutchler has one child, Charlie, born June 21, 1882.

CHARLES HURD, contractor, was reared on a farm in the town of Caton, Steuben county, New York, where he was born on December 17, 1823. His mother, Cynthia Shepard, was a native of the same state. Stephen Hurd, his father, was born in Connecticut. Young Hurd enjoyed the educational privileges afforded by the Caton district schools until twenty years old, when he engaged in lumbering. In 1847 he went to Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, and was employed in the lumbering region on the Wolf river. Five years later he removed to La Crosse and did the first draying in that city. He engaged in various contracts, and was employed several winters by the American Express Company in carrying goods between La Crosse and St. Paul. On October 23, 1854, Mr. Hurd was united in marriage to Eliza, daughter of Jesse N. and Polly Blackington, natives of Massachusetts and Ohio. In 1862 Mr. Hurd removed to Winona and dwelt there two years. In August, 1864, he came to New Haven and bought the sawmill at Genoa village, built by Baker & Frycke. This mill he operated for six years, and was compelled to abandon it by his misfortunes, the dam being washed out five times. Over \$5,000 was sunk in this property, to say nothing of the labor of its proprietor. He secured thirty acres of land on section 33, which now constitutes his home, and is employed in lumbering contracts during the winter and in railroad contracts in the summer. Mr. Hurd is a member of Rochester lodge, A. F. and A. M.; was formerly an Odd-Fellow; has always been a republican, and served the town as constable in 1880-1. His family, which includes eight children, has been very fortunate, as no deaths and very little sickness have ever occurred in it. The record is given below: Adelbert, born September 14, 1854, married Minerva Baker, November, 1881, in Bon Homme county, Dakota, where he now dwells; Adrian, born July 13, 1856, home at Genoa; Harriet Elizabeth, born May 13, 1858, married Frank Cornwell March 13, 1883, and resides on section 16; Lucius, born March 22, 1860, now living at Winnipeg, Manitoba; Charles B., born August 12, 1862, resides with parents; Burton, born May 12, 1866; Earl, August 23, 1870; and Ross, October 23, 1874.

S. W. BRACE HALL, farmer, was born in Bridgewater, Oneida county, New York, January 9, 1847. His father, Chester Hall, was a native of the same state; and his mother, Cynthia Ambler, was

born in Connecticut. He assisted his father in farm work and attended the district school. At nineteen his life was despaired of on account of consumption. He came to Rochester in pursuit of health, and found it. On his arrival here he was scarcely able to help himself, but soon began to recuperate under the stimulus of Minnesota's invigorating air. He bought a farm of 204 acres lying on sections 27 and 34, Cascade, which he at once began to till, and with success. For the past seven years he has been engaged in supplying the people of Rochester with milk, keeping over thirty cows for that purpose. He was married January 8, 1874, to Eliza M. Vroman, who was born in Hastings, New York, July 10, 1849; her parents, John and Mary F. Vroman, were New Yorkers, of German descent. Mr. Hall is a republican, and a member of Rochester lodge, I.O.O.F., also of Ashlar Lodge, A.O.U.W., of Rochester. Himself and wife are members of the Congregational church. They have two children, born as here noted: Arthur, July 4, 1879; Edith, August 31, 1881.

HARRISON WALDRON, deceased, was born in Onondaga county, New York, August 18, 1815. He was a brother of Robert Waldron, of Cascade, elsewhere mentioned in this work. His early life was that of a New York farmer's son, and he received a good common-school education. He had an excellent faculty for mathematics, and was a natural speaker, often exercising these gifts in the grange and in public meetings. Mr. Waldron became possessor of a farm in Sennett, New York, which he tilled. He was married November 11, 1840, to Almira DeWaters, who was born in Elbridge, Onondaga county, December 10, 1819; her parents, Samuel and Olive DeWaters, were natives of New York and Maine respectively. Mr. Waldron sold out in New York in 1845, and became a pioneer of Michigan, settling in Leroy, where he made a farm. From thence he removed to Olmsted county in 1864 and bought one-fourth of section 35, Kalmar, which he tilled up to the time of his demise, which occurred May 27, 1875. At the annual town meeting of that year he was elected chairman of the town board. He was an active worker in behalf of schools and the public welfare generally, and his decease was a loss to his town and county. He was a strong supporter of the republican party. Himself and wife united with the Christian denomination in Michigan, and he clung to its faith at his death, as does his widow now. They had three sons and a like number of daughters, all of whom are living, as follows: Gardner,

born July 10, 1843, married Sina Daniels, dwells at Kasson ; Ellen, March, 1846, Alvin Rice, Cascade ; Alfred and Albert, twins, April 14, 1852,—the former married Ella King, lives Spencer, Iowa,—latter, Jenny Whitcomb, Hancock, Dakota ; Cerell, August 10, 1853,—A. H. Maxfield,— section 34 ; Emma, March 20, 1857,—Elmer Van Camp,— Marcellus, Onondaga county, New York.

GUSTAVUS HARGESHEIMER, druggist, was born in Bremen, Germany, December 1, 1845. He emigrated to America in 1857, and located in Chicago, where he attended school for a time, after which he entered a drug store as clerk. In 1859 he entered the College of Pharmacy, where he attended one year. In May, 1861, he enlisted in the 24th Ill. Inf., a regiment which covered itself with glory. He was discharged August 27, 1864. In January, 1865, he came to Rochester and clerked one year, after which he embarked in business for himself, and now has the largest drug trade in the city. He was married in 1868, to Miss Louisa Weber. Six intelligent children have been born to the couple. Mr. Hargesheimer is secretary of the German Library Association, and is a prominent member of the I.O.O.F., being grand marshal of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota.

CARLOS W. BALDWIN was born in Rutland county, Vermont, in 1812. Twelve years later the family emigrated to Orleans county, New York, where they resided ten years. At the end of that time our subject came west to Kalamazoo, Michigan, where he was for some time employed as clerk in a boot and shoe store. In 1859 he went to Columbia, Wisconsin. He was for seven years engaged in the grain business in Pardeeville. In 1865 he came to Olmsted county, locating in Rochester. Mr. Baldwin was married March 2, 1842, to Miss Eliza Barden, a native of Chenango county. Alice C., Lora O. and Corwin C. are the names of their children.

Among the successful business men of Rochester, the name of ELLIOT A. KNOWLTON stands prominent. He was born in Windham county, Vermont, September 10, 1844. When twelve years of age his parents emigrated to Minnesota, and located at Northfield. After coming to Minnesota he attended Hamlin University three years. On September 9, 1862, he enlisted in Co. A, 7th Minn. Inf., serving on the frontier and at Fort Snelling until the close of the war, after which he was in the employ of J. D. Blake & Co. for six years, when he became a member of the firm. He was married March 4, 1872, to Miss Ella R. Blake, also a native of



Vermont. George B. and Clarence E. are the names of their children. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Knowlton is also member of the Knights of Honor.

THEODORE B. KELLOG (deceased) was born in Champlain, New York, December 12, 1837. In 1857 he came west to Wisconsin, and spent four years and six months with a surveying party. In December, 1861, he enlisted in 2d Minn. Sharpshooters, and while in the service participated in nearly thirty engagements. He was discharged in 1864, after which he came to Rochester. In 1867 he became a partner in the firm of Kellog & Johnston, dealers in general merchandise. In 1879 he sold out his interest, and in 1880 opened a boot and shoe store with a stock of groceries in connection, on the corner of Broadway and Zumbro streets. He was married January 2, 1873, to Miss Mary Bradley, a native of Crystal Lake, Wisconsin. Karl, is the name of their only living child. Mr. Kellog was a member of the A. F. and A. M. lodge No. 21, also of Chapter No. 8 and Home Commandery No. 5.

LYMAN E. COWDERY, real-estate dealer, was born in Palmyra, New York, February 18, 1836. When he was two years of age the family emigrated to Kirtland, Ohio, where they resided eight years. In 1846 they came west to Wisconsin, locating in Elkhorn. His father was an attorney by profession. In 1859 our subject came to Winona, and thence to Rochester, in 1865. In the fall of 1873 he was elected register of deeds, which position he held three terms. In 1879 he was elected mayor of the city. He was married in 1861, to Miss Sallie E. Fowler, a native of Galena, Illinois. Robert L. and Mabel L. are the names of the children resulting from the union. The family are members of the Universalist church; Mr. Cowdery is also a Mason.

ALONZO D. ROBINSON, Rochester, was born in Bradford county, Pennsylvania, July 4, 1835. When he was twelve years of age the family removed to Tioga county. In 1862 our subject enlisted in Co. H, 137th N. Y. Vol. Inf., in which he served until the close of the war. He participated in the battles of Antietam, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Wahatchie Valley, Lookout Mountain, and also in the Georgia campaign. He was mustered out in Louisville, Kentucky, in June, 1865. He was married in 1862, to Miss Rodelphia E. Swartwood, a native of New York, who died in 1880. He was again married in 1881, to Mrs. Marcia D. Ott. The names of his children are Alice R., Mark A., Roy O., Grace E. and Harry V.

He is a member of Masonic order, also of the chapter and mandery, and is also an Odd-Fellow. He came to Rochester in 1865, and engaged in draying. He runs four teams.

JAMES D. SPAULDING, grocer, was born in Trumbull county, Ohio, in 1826. Ten years later his father's family removed to Geauga county, where they resided twelve years. In 1855 our subject came to Stillwater, Minnesota, where he worked at blacksmithing, which trade he had begun when twenty-one years of age. He came to Rochester in 1865, and began working at his trade. In November, 1881, he bought a half-interest in the grocery business with Mr. Mueller. He was married in 1857, to Miss Harriet A. Fling, a native of St. Lawrence county, New York.

JOHN W. CAMPBELL was born in Erie county, Pennsylvania, March 7, 1817, and was married to Martha Gillespie, February 4, 1840, and by her had one child, a son, born November 17, 1847, who was named John Vernon Campbell. His mother died November 6, 1853, and on November 2, 1854, John W. Campbell was married to Susan Walker, and by her had two children: Martha Jane Campbell, born September 25, 1855, and Dyer Henry Campbell, born November 28, 1858, and on September 4, 1865, he started with his family for Olmsted county, Minnesota, and settled on a farm in the town of Marion. Here he lived four years, and then moved to the city of Rochester, and worked in the office of the register of deeds for four years, when he was elected a justice of the peace in the second ward of said city, and served twenty months. In consequence of failing health he resigned and went to Tallahassee, Florida, where he spent six months, and returned to Rochester, where he resides at the present time.

P. D. BROCKWAY, farmer, came to Eyota township, Olmsted county, in 1865, and bought two hundred and forty acres in sections 2 and 12, where he farmed and raised fine blooded stock, short-horns principally. In 1876 he moved to Jasper county, Iowa, and followed raising blooded stock exclusively till 1881, when he bought two hundred and fifty-five acres of land in sections 28 and 33, town of Haverhill, where he now resides. Mr. Brockway is still in the blooded stock-raising business, dealing in short-horns in cattle, Jersey Southdowns in sheep, and Jersey Reds or Dorocks in hogs, has also some good road horses. Our subject was born in Elmira, New York, in 1840, and is the son of Timothy and Deborah Wisner-Brockway. Assisted his father on his farm till 1857, when he began working for him-

self on a farm until he came west in 1865. He was married in 1868, to Miss Amelia Taylor, daughter of Allen and Elvira (Johnson) Taylor, and has had by this marriage four children: James H., born 1871; Horace G., born 1873; Lilian A., born 1875, and Brent H., born 1878. In politics our subject is a republican, in religion is liberal in his views. Mrs. Brockway is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

HENRY H. BEACH, Marion, was born in Randolph county, Indiana, April 9, 1840. In January, 1864, he enlisted in Co. I, 130th Ind. Inf., in which he served until the close of the war. He was mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky, after which he came to Minnesota, and located on section 26, Marion township. He was married in 1861, to Miss Margaret J. Nickum Gertrude, May, Ella, Earl, Peter, Iovra and Garfield are the names of their children. Mr. Beach has been supervisor four terms, also township treasurer, and is now town clerk.

MR. O. T. DICKERMAN, son of Elijah and Clarinda (Taplin) Dickerman, was born April 28, 1842, in Topsham, Vermont. He came to Viola at the close of the late war, and married Mary E. Whipple, March 15, 1866. They have two children: Lottie E. and Maud E. Mr. Dickerman was a volunteer from Vermont, and with the army of the Potomac under General Burnside. He has been vice-president of the State Agricultural Society for three years, and is president of the Olmsted County Agricultural Society. He is a close observer of men and events, and consequently well fitted for the offices to which his fellow-citizens have called him.

C. W. BARTO, druggist, was born near Russelltown, Canada, in 1850. The family emigrated to Wisconsin in the same year, remaining until 1863, thence to Winona, remaining sixteen months. At the end of that time they came to Eyota. His father, George Barto, built the first hotel in the village, which was then known as the Everett House. In 1874 our subject went to Henderson, Minnesota, and was there engaged in the drug business until June, 1876, when he returned to Eyota, where he has since been engaged in the same line. As a merchant and citizen he is very popular. Mr. Barto was married October 29, 1878, to Miss Jennie L. Willis, a native of Indiana.

EDWIN DUNN, lumber dealer, was born in Wayne county, Pennsylvania, on July 27, 1834. When fourteen years of age he went to New York city and was there until 1861, when he enlisted in the

25th regt. N. Y. Cav., and was mustered in as commissary. He served two years in the army, being under Gen. Custer. After his discharge he went to the oil regions in Pennsylvania and embarked in the wholesale tobacco trade. In 1865 he came to Rochester, and after remaining two years bought the lumber business of Yeouman & Dodge, in Eyota, and has carried on the business since that time. He was for four years sergeant-at-arms in the senate. He is a member of the A. F. and A. M., and also a member of the United Brethren church. He is one of the leading business men in Eyota, and is an ardent worker in the cause of temperance.

CHARLES R. BLAIR, drygoods merchant, was born in Fletcher, Vermont, on August 6, 1837. His boyhood days were spent in his native state. In 1861 he enlisted in Co. H, 2d regt. Ver. Inf., and was discharged in June, 1864. During this time he participated in the battles of Bull Run, Lee's Mills, Williamsburg, Gaines' Mills, Savage Station, White Oak Swamp, Malvern Hill, second Bull Run, Crampton's Pass, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Bank's Ford, Franklin Crossing, Gettysburg, Funks Town, Mine Run, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, Petersburg and Rappahannock Station. In the fall of 1864 he came to Minnesota, and in February, 1865, entered the employ of Milo White at Chatfield. In May, 1865, he came to Eyota, and in 1868 embarked in business for himself. In 1869 he was made postmaster, and has been several times chairman of the board of supervisors. He was married in 1875, to Miss Leila C. Hill, also a native of Vermont. Harry E. and Edith M. are the names of the children born to them.

CHARLES P. RUSSELL, drygoods merchant and grain dealer, was born in Burlington, Vermont, in 1837. In 1856 he came to Winona and engaged in business there. In 1865 he proceeded to Eyota. In 1878 he was elected to the state legislature, where he served one term. He was married in 1859, to Miss Helen M. Farar, a native of Vermont. Fred H. is the name of their only child. Mr. Russell is now carrying on an extensive drygoods business, and also deals largely in grain. He is a member of the A. F. and A. M.

JOSEPH GWINN, farmer, came to Salem, Minnesota, in 1865, and in 1874 purchased eighty acres of land in section 3, where he now (1883) resides. In 1877 he married Miss Carrie Wixson, born in Canada in 1858, daughter of J. L. and Roxie Wixson. They have one child, Laben, born 1878. Joseph Gwinn was born in Indiana in 1843 and is the son of Robert and Nancy (Ellison) Gwinn, with



whom he lived till 1861, when he enlisted in the 12th Ind. Inf., Co. B, serving one year, but immediately re-enlisted in the 75th Ind. Inf., Co. J, serving till the end of the war. He was presented with a commission as lieutenant in reward for his bravery and ability, and was acting captain during the latter part of the war. He was in the following battles: Winchester, Lockport, Maryland, Stone River, Hoover's Gap, Murfreesboro, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, Rocky Face, Altoona, Pine Knob, Atlanta, Wainsboro, Savannah and Smithfield, which last was fought on the day on which Gen. Robert E. Lee surrendered. At the close of the war our subject returned to his father's farm in Indiana, where he remained till he emigrated west in 1865. In politics he is a republican, in religion has very liberal views.

LUCIUS A. DUDLEY, teacher, was born March 2, 1853, at Belmont, Franklin county, New York. His father, Lorin Dudley, was also a native of New York, and removed when Lucius was but two years old to Waupaca county, Wisconsin. Here he enlisted at the outbreak of the civil war, in the 21st Wisconsin regiment, and was killed at the battle of Perrysville, Kentucky, October 8, 1862. Lorin Dudley married Juliette, daughter of Ebenezer Wheeler, a veteran of the war of 1812. After the death of her husband she removed with her family of four little ones to Eyota, this county. Our subject, being the eldest, and also ambitious, was very active in assisting his mother. He worked on farms in the summer and attended the district school in the winter. His ambition led him to overwork himself, and at fourteen he was attacked with illness, which confined him to the house for over a year, and his life was despaired of. The next two years after his recovery, being too frail to endure physical labor, he attended school, one year of the time at Chatfield. When he was in the seventeenth year of his age he began his first term of school, and has been engaged in the work nearly ever since. He taught the public schools at Dover, Marion and Pleasant Grove, this county, and three years at Grand Meadow, Mower county. In the fall of 1881 Mr. Dudley was engaged to take charge of the schools at Oronoco, and is now conducting them with eminent satisfaction to pupils and parents that has always characterized his work. As his early advantages were limited, a considerable share of his time has been given to attending schools and institutes. He at one time attended the Rochester high school, and now holds a first grade state certificate,

which he has earned by his own industry in cultivating his talents. April 22, 1875, Mr. Dudley was wedded to Miss Lizzie, daughter of Jacob and Angelina Wagoner, of Rochester, and is now assisted by her in his work. They have two children: Grace S., born September 2, 1876, and Howard L., born May 26, 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Dudley are active workers in Oronoco lodge, No. 110, I.O.G.T., and the former is also prominent in the Oronoco lodge, I.O.O.F., and the latter in the Rebeccas. Mr. Dudley is superintendent of the Sunday school, in which his wife is a teacher. Mr. Dudley votes as his father fought.

FRANKLIN J. HEWITT, merchant, was born at Girard, Erie county, Pennsylvania, June 4, 1842; his parents, Joseph F. Hewitt and Julia E. *née* Philips, were natives of New York. In 1844 they removed to Macomb county, Michigan, and the subject of this sketch received his education at the graded schools in the villages of Discoe and Washington, that county. At sixteen years of age he began to assist his father in his occupation as wheelwright. He has nearly ever since followed wagon making and building. In 1864-5 he served in the United States commissary department at Nashville. In the spring of 1865 he came to Oronoco and engaged at his trade, which he continued for ten years. December 19, 1868, Mr. Hewitt was united in marriage to Jennie Kirkham, sister of J. H. Kirkham, whose parentage is elsewhere given in this work. They have two bright children: Maud Mabel, born July 17, 1872, and Frank J., born October 3, 1874. During the years 1875-6-7 Mr. Hewitt represented the Atlantic Glass Co. of Pittsburg, and spent nearly all his time traveling, at the same time having a half-interest in a grocery store here, which he had opened in company with James Barnett, the latter attending to its management. He subsequently traded some property for the store he now occupies on north side of River street, where he deals in fruits and confectionery. Mr. Hewitt engaged in collecting curiosities, and has a handsome case of rare articles. On his arrival here he had but two dollars in cash, and has earned a comfortable independence by his industry and sagacity. At present he owns two stores on River street, nineteen lots in blocks 1 and 10, and lots 1 to 6, inclusive, in block 19 of the village of Oronoco, besides twenty-seven acres on section 8 of this township, and a lot and business block in Minneapolis. Mr. Hewitt is a member of Rochester lodge, No. 13, I.O.O.F. In politics he is

a republican, but has always declined to accept any office from his fellow-citizens.

WILLIAM DIETER, farmer. In the days of William Penn, the great-grandfather of this subject emigrated from Germany and settled in Pennsylvania. His grandson, William Dieter, married Susan Boyer, a native of the same state, and William Dieter, first above named, was born to them in Luzerne county, January 26, 1827. He attended the common schools of Crawford county, where his parents subsequently settled, and assisted his father in tilling his farm. From the time he was eighteen until he was twenty-one years of age he worked at blacksmithing. Not liking this avocation, he came west on attaining his majority, and engaged in farm labor in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin. Here he married Carrie, daughter of John and Mary Tanner, natives of Pennsylvania, April 24, 1857. Three years later Mr. Dieter settled in this county, at first renting land in the town of Farmington. He shortly purchased the southeast quarter section of this township, which he has occupied ever since 1865. Here he has lived a quiet life, so managing his own affairs as to be now in very comfortable circumstances. He has paid little attention to public affairs, so far performing the duty of a citizen, however, as to vote on all matters of importance, supporting the republican party. He is not connected with any society, but Mrs. Dieter is a member of the Presbyterian church. Four children have been given to them, the eldest being taken away in infancy; they were born as follows: Franklin M., July 13, 1858, died on the 24th of the following April; Alfred, born July 7, 1859 (lives in Wabasha); Wilson W., born February 28, 1863; Bertie A., born May 24, 1872.

HENRY I. WOOD, farmer, is a native of Schenectady county, New York, where his birth occurred November 28, 1837. His father, George T. Wood, and mother, Mary Briggs, were also natives of the same state. In 1845 the elder Wood removed with his family to Dodge county, Wisconsin, and his son received his education in the district schools of that locality. Here he was married December 2, 1864, to Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel L. and Hannah (Banner) Davis, also natives of New York, and soon after removed to Minnesota, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 30 of this township, where he has ever since dwelt. He has one child, Frank D., born August 26, 1867. Mr. Wood is a member of Ashlar Lodge, A.O.U.W., of Rochester. In politics he is a

republican. He came here with very little capital, and his industry and perseverance has placed him in comfortable circumstances.

NATHANIEL A. ROSEBOOM, farmer. On November 24, 1689, Gerrit Roseboom, merchant, was married to Maria Sanders, daughter of the mayor of Albany. His eldest son, Hendrick, was born in 1691. Hendrick's son, Gerrit, first saw light in 1722. He begat Gerrit, born September 21, 1762; and the fourth Gerrit in the line of descent thus established was born at Albany, January 25, 1791. The third Gerrit was commander of a regiment of colonists in the French and Indian war; the fourth served while yet very young in the revolutionary struggle. The fourth of this name married Lydia Pennington, daughter of John Pennington, who also served the colonies during the revolutionary struggle. He settled in Somerset county, New Jersey, where Nathaniel, his son, was born September 2, 1820. Gerrit Roseboom shortly afterward removed to New York city, where he followed his trade of shipbuilding, and where young Nathaniel assisted him as soon as he was old enough. On attaining his majority, Nathaniel continued this occupation until failing health compelled him to abandon it. He afterward engaged in contracting, and took charge of work in the building of the Monitors at the United States navy-yards in Brooklyn. In April, 1863, Mr. Roseboom came to Minnesota and bought the hotel, with forty acres of land, at South Troy, Wabasha county. He also kept the postoffice at that point. Two years later he sold this property and bought the northwest quarter of section 1 in this township, on which he has since resided. Not being accustomed to farming, he at first made some expensive mistakes, but is now in comfortable circumstances. He was married October 28, 1866, to Mrs. Mary A. Roy, a widow residing with her daughter in this township. Mr. R. has one child by a former marriage, Gerrit, born September 23, 1848. This fifth Gerrit was married in November, 1879, to Louise Rayno, of Zumbro township, and now lives on a farm adjoining his father's on the north; he has one child, Nathaniel, named in honor of his grandfather.

GIDEON C. LAKE, farmer, High Forest, was born in Albany county, New York, in 1829. When nineteen years of age he went to Wayne county, Pennsylvania, and was there engaged in lumbering and various occupations for six years, at the end of that time he went to Tioga county, Pennsylvania, and was there until 1856. In 1857 he came to Mower county, Minnesota, locating in the town of



Racine, and to High Forest township in 1865, locating on section 3. He enlisted in August, 1864, in Co. H, 11th Minnesota Inf., serving until the war closed. He was married October 21, 1853, to Jane M. Hammond, a native of Tioga county, Pennsylvania. Sarah E., Jennie M., Rose B. and Louis L. are their children's names.

JOHN F. POOLER, farmer, Dover, was born in Somerset county, Maine, in 1840. From that state the family came to Eau Claire, Wisconsin, and to St. Charles, Minnesota, in 1865. In 1866 our subject came to Dover township, locating on section 12, Dover township. He was married in 1862, to Miss Betsy Carter, a native of New York State, who died in 1880. He was again married in 1881, to Miss Emma J. Wilson, a native of Winnebago county, Illinois.

JULIUS GUDERIAN, farmer, of Dover, was born in Prussia, March 20, 1833. He came to America in 1857, locating in Wisconsin. During the same year he went to California, where he remained two years, after which he returned to Wisconsin. In 1865 he came to Olmsted county, locating on section 33, Dover township. In 1880 he was elected assessor, which position he still holds. He was married in 1859, to Miss Matilda Quade, who was also born in Germany. The names of their children are as follows: Theresa, Fred, Lena, Henry, Charlie, Edward, George, Otto, Ella and Lizzie. Mr. Guderian and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

CLARK PHELPS, farmer, is of New England parentage; his father, Elijah D. Phelps, was a native of Connecticut, and his mother, Eunice *née* Amidon, of Massachusetts. Elijah Phelps settled in Reedsborough, Vermont, where the subject of this sketch was born, June 19, 1807. When he was seven years old his parents removed to New York, where he was reared on a farm. On April 5, 1832, he married Miss Laura J. Keeler; her parents, Martin Keeler and Nancy Northrop, were born in Connecticut. In 1851 Mr. Phelps removed to Adams county, Wisconsin, where he followed farming. He came to New Haven in December, 1865, and bought thirty-one acres of land on section 33, where he has since resided; has engaged in various occupations; carried the mail from Genoa to Mantorville from 1872 to 1879. Is an unassuming man, but enjoys the respect of his neighbors and the filial devotion of his six living children, all of whom are settled near him. One child was taken away before reaching two years of age. Here is their record of



J. C. KETCHUM.



births, etc.: Jane, February 15, 1833, married Abram Bryant and lives at Mankato; Elvira, February 28, 1834, married Matthew Ottman November, 1851, resides at Genoa; Ellen, June 12, 1837, married George Fryer September 9, 1855, lives at Genoa; Charles M., June 5, 1839, lives on section 34, married Polly Fennell, now deceased; Ralph, February 26, 1841, married Almira Baker, now resides in the town of Kalmar; Julina, April 21, 1844, died February 26, 1846; Elma J., May 24, 1849, married Dewitt G. Ottman, November 29, 1872, resides on section 33, opposite parents.

JAMES BRYANT, farmer, was born in County Wicklow, Ireland, April 5, 1830. His parents, James and Rachel (Jenkenson) Bryant, emigrated when he was a year old to the Province of Quebec and settled on a farm near Stanstead. Here he was reared, received an ordinary education at the schools of that locality, and on arriving at majority engaged in farming. He was married to Ruth Cleveland, April 30, 1856; she bore him five children, as follows: Laura A., born February 12, 1857, died July 15 following; Corry A., born September 30, 1858, died May 31, 1860; infant unnamed, died May 3, 1860; Clara B., born July 24, 1860, married Harlan Miller, of Douglass, February 15, 1883, and is now in Manitoba; Charley C., born June 15, 1866, died August 28, 1869. In the fall of 1865 Mr. Bryant came to Minnesota and settled in the town of Cascade, this county, purchasing 120 acres of land, which he cultivated, on sections 7 and 8. Here he was deprived of his helpmeet by death, September 2, 1869. In 1876 he sold his farm and spent the succeeding three years in Canada. Returning to this county, he purchased 200 acres of land on section 35 of this township, in July, 1879, and has ever since resided thereon. On Christmas day, 1879, he married Josephine W., relict of Edmund W. Connor, and daughter of Hiram and Cornelia (Hall) Hunt. Mr. Bryant became a citizen of the United States as soon as the laws permitted, and has always supported the republican party. He was reared in the Episcopal church, of which both his parents were members. Mrs. Bryant is a member of the Baptist church. They have a pleasant home half a mile from Douglass Station, and enjoy the respect and esteem of their little community.

NATHANIEL BOWKER, deceased, was born March 10, 1834, at Georgia, Vermont, also the native town of his parents, John and Elvira Bowker. He was reared on a farm, and received his education, which was somewhat limited on account of deafness caused by



scarlet fever at an early age, at Georgia Academy. In 1856 he settled in Illinois, and was married at Lena, in that state, March 25, 1857, to Martha E. Reynolds, whose parentage is elsewhere given under this township. He enlisted August 9, 1862, in Co. D, 93d Ill. regt., and served three years, participating in many important engagements, among which were the battles of Champion Hills, Jackson, and the siege of Vicksburg. His wife having removed with her parents to this town, he joined her here at the close of the war, and engaged in farming on sections 10 and 11, where she still dwells, the farm having been bequeathed to her by her father. Mr. Bowker joined the Baptist church at eighteen years of age, and Mrs. Bowker united with the Congregationalists at the same age. In politics he was a republican, and early took a prominent part in managing the affairs of this town; was clerk of his school district in Illinois immediately on coming here; served the town as justice of the peace nearly all of his residence here, and as supervisor in 1868-9. His constitution was broken by army life, and he never enjoyed perfect health during his stay here. After a long struggle with the pale destroyer, he passed away on the morning of July 4, 1881. One child, Sibyl E., born November 28, 1866, survives him, besides his widow. Their first child, Elvira S., born at Lena, Illinois, April 6, 1862, died on the following October 2.

HENRY WEBER, harness dealer, Rochester, was born April 28, 1845, in Germany. He came to America in 1848 with his father's family, locating in Washington county, Wisconsin, where he learned the harness trade under his father's instruction in that state. He came to Rochester in 1865, working as a journeyman until 1878, when he became one of the firm now known as Beardsley & Weber. He was married November 19, 1873, to Miss Bertha Miller, a native of Wisconsin. Otto and Cora are their children's names.

DANIEL A. MORRISON is a son of Ananias and Mary Gaston Morrison, and was born in Franklin, Venango county, Pennsylvania, January 8, 1842. The family are of Scotch origin on the paternal side, and Irish on the maternal. John Gaston was wounded in the war of 1812, from the effects of which he finally died. In 1846 the family emigrated to Elmira, New York, and six years later to Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, when the son received a practical education and learned the printer's trade in the office of the "Commonwealth." Before reaching the age of eighteen he took charge of the "Journal" at Markesan, with which paper he was connected during the years of

1859 and 1860. In 1862 Mr. Morrison enlisted in the 32d Wis. Inf., serving until the close of the war. In April, 1866, he located in Rochester, and embarked in the mercantile business. He has been at the head of the municipality in Rochester three terms, and is now serving his fourth term in the state senate. He is a member of the I.O.O.F., and also of the A. F. and A. M. During the years 1877 and 1878 he acted as grand master of the Odd-Fellows of the state, and is now serving his second term as grand representative of the Sovereign Grand Lodge of Odd-Fellows. He was married in 1865, to Miss Sarah M. Beeton, of Rochester, and of four children born to them three are living. In public as well as in private life Mr. Morrison has a record of which he may well be proud.

ROYAL H. GOVE, attorney-at-law, was born in Orange county, Vermont, January 16, 1830. He received an academical education. In 1851 he came to Morgan county, Illinois, and taught school two years, after which he returned to Vermont. In 1856 he moved to Columbia county, Wisconsin, and there began practicing law. In 1866 he came to Rochester. From 1870 till 1874 he was city justice. In 1869 he was city assessor. Mr. Gove was married August 21, 1851, to Miss Nancy A. Farnham, also a native of Vermont. Henry C., Arthur L., Royal A., Herbert H., Lenora A., Nancy R., George and Archie are the names of the children resulting from the union. Mr. Gove is a Mason and also a member of the Presbyterian church.

WILLIAM W. REED, liveryman, was born in Orange county, New York, January 20, 1841. When he was eight years of age his father's family emigrated to Cook county, Illinois. In the spring of 1855 they came to Mower county, Minnesota. In 1866 our subject came to Rochester, and began keeping hotel in the Stephens House. At the end of two and a half years he left the hotel and embarked in the implement business, which he continued four years. In 1876 he began the livery business, in which line he is doing well. Mr. Reed was married April 5, 1864, to Miss Evelenia Langton, a native of Michigan. Lavina E., George F., Harland W. and Jay W. are the names of their children. He is a member of the A.O.U.W., being secretary of the Rochester lodge.

Prominent among the manufacturers of Rochester is the name of JOHN T. LA DU; he was born in Onondaga county, New York, May 8, 1842. He was reared a farmer. In 1862 he enlisted in Co. H, 122d N. Y. Vol. Inf. While in the service he took part in the battles of South Mountain, Antietam and Fredericksburg, when he

became unfitted for duty for eleven months, but again joined his regiment in the spring of 1864. After which he participated in the battles of the Wilderness, Cold Harbor, Spottsylvania, Bermuda, Fort Stephens, Winchester, and also several engagements in the vicinity of Petersburg. He was also at Appomattox and witnessed Lee's surrender. In 1865 he took a course in a business college at Poughkeepsie. In 1866 he came to Rochester, after which he was engaged in various pursuits until January, 1881, when he purchased an interest in the Cockle mill manufactory. He was married in 1872, to Miss Carrie Lockwood, a native of Chittenden county, Vermont. John T. and Edward B. are the only living children.

ANDERSON WHITING, grain dealer, was born in Douglass, Massachusetts, April 21, 1815. When he was four years of age the family emigrated to Erie county, New York. In the fall of 1836 they removed to Michigan, and later to Rockford, Illinois. In the fall of 1839 they moved to Walworth county, Wisconsin. While there our subject was several terms township supervisor, and served two terms in the legislature. In 1866 he came to Rochester and embarked in the grain business, which he still continues. He was married in 1834, to Miss Polly Rice, a native of New York, who died in 1879. He was again married in 1881, to Miss Sophia Monroe, also a native of New York. He and Mrs. Whiting are members of the Universalist society in Rochester.

JOHN ROMMELL, butcher, was born in Prussia, May 29, 1837. When eighteen years of age he came to America, after which he went into the Lake Superior lead-mining region, where he remained three months. After which he went to Appleton, Wisconsin, where he remained eighteen months. Thence he proceeded to Fox Lake, remaining two years. In 1866 he came to Rochester and opened a butcher-shop, doing a lucrative business. In 1878 he erected the building he now occupies, which is two stories high and 80×22 on the ground. In 1877 he and his brother erected what is known as the Rommell block, which cost them ten thousand dollars. Mr. Rommell was married in 1861, to Miss Amelia Struppert, a native of Germany. Frederick A., George H. (deceased), Henry O., Frank J., Ida, Alma and John are the names of the children born to the couple.

FRANK LARSEN, wagon-maker, was born in Rochester, New York, September 30, 1839. In an early day the family emigrated to Racine, Wisconsin, where they remained three years, after which

they went to Dane county. In 1866 our subject came to Rochester. In 1868 he became a partner with Mr. Oleson in the wagon business. He was married in 1867, to Miss Nettie Hansen, a native of Norway. Robert O. and Alfred are the names of their children.

HUGH McLEOD, blacksmith, Rochester, was born in Canada West in 1845. When twenty-one years of age he came to Rochester and engaged in blacksmithing, having learned the trade in Canada. He was married in 1865, to Miss Catherine Hooks, a native of New York State. The names of his children are Gertrude and Helen, aged respectively seven and five. Mr. McLeod is a member of the I.O.O.F., and is financial secretary of the Rochester lodge, and is also a member of the Alert hook and ladder company.

RICHARD P. FOLSOM, farmer, Pleasant Grove, was born in Franklin county, Maine, in 1837. His family are of Irish and English mixture. He received his education in the district schools of his native county and at Bates College in Lewiston. He subsequently turned his attention to teaching. He came to Olmsted county in 1866, locating on section 18, Pleasant Grove township. He was married in July, 1863, to Miss Olive M. Staples, a native of the same county and state. Anna J., William L. and Susan E. are the names of their children. Mr. Folsom is a member of the Masonic order at Pleasant Grove.

HIRAM MILLER, merchant, is a native of New York, as were his parents. His father, John Miller, was a millwright and carpenter. He married Phoebe Tillotson, of his own county, Chenango, and settled in Harmony, Chautauqua county; here our subject was born November 19, 1836. He attended the district schools till eighteen years old. At this time he joined the Freewill Baptist church and was licensed to preach. He now set about improving his education, and to this end received private instruction from a Baptist minister. In 1856 he came to Minnesota and was shortly ordained by the Baptist authorities, at Lansing. After this he attended the Northwestern university at Wasioji two years, continuing his labors in the pulpit in the meantime, and continued to preach for seven years, when he was obliged to give it up on account of tonsillitis. His tonsils have been lanced over twenty times. In 1856 he came to the village of Genoa, in the town of New Haven, this county, and opened a grocery store in what is now known as the stone shop. The next year he built and occupied a store on Exchange street, just west of the present store in that village, where he remained in busi-



ness till his removal to Douglass in 1878. On the arrival of the railroad at the latter point and date, Mr. Miller built the store and residence adjoining at Douglass and went into business there. He sold out two years later and built his present residence and post-office near the railroad track. He is at present engaged in the sale of school supplies in addition to a small mercantile business. He is one of the most active members in Douglass lodge, No. 116, I. O. G. T.; has always been a republican; was appointed postmaster at Genoa on the establishment of an office there in 1872, and held the position till his removal to Douglass. A postoffice was established here, with Mr. Miller as postmaster, November 4, 1878, and he has since continued to administer the office. He was justice in New Haven from 1872 to 1878. In his clerical and official capacity Mr. Miller has united fifty-seven couples in marriage, of which number he knows of only one that separated afterward. On October 12, 1858, Mr. Miller was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary S. Vaughn. Her parents, Benjamin Vaughn and Joanna Kimball, were born in Clinton county, New York. At twenty years of age she united with the Baptist church, and was a faithful assistant in her husband's denominational labors. Five children have been sent to bless them, as follows: Harlan E., born August 19, 1859, married Clara B. Bryant February 15, 1883, and lives at St. Paul; Albert, born January 3, 1864, died on the 28th of March following; Hugh and Herbert, twins, born December 31, 1866; Hiram, born June 15, 1876.

MALCOLM WRIGHT, wagon and carriage maker, was born in Wyoming county, New York, in 1827. That his great-grandfather, his grandfather and father were blacksmiths is a remarkable fact in the family history. Our subject learned his trade with his father, and followed it until 1862, when he raised a company of volunteers for the war of the rebellion, of which he was made captain, and which was designated as Co. G, and attached to the 160th N. Y. Vols. He served one year in the army, resigning at the end of that time on account of disabilities. He came to Winona in 1863, and thence to Eyota in 1866. Mr. Wright was married in September, 1849, to Miss Lucia Maynard, a native of Attica, Wyoming county, New York. Florence and Silas are their children's names. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Wright is also a member of the A. F. and A. M. and Temple of Honor.

JAMES TOWEY (deceased), Pleasant Grove, was born in county

Mayo, Ireland, in 1831. In 1855 he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Towey. Their children's names are Maria (deceased), John, Ann, Peter, Maria, Thomas and Margaret. Mr. Towey came to America in 1849, locating in New York State, thence to Dodge county, Wisconsin, and to Olmsted county in 1866.

ALBERT N. WALDRON, farmer, is one of those who cast his fortunes in Olmsted county when there was little to lose, and now stands among her independent and exemplary citizens. He became a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at sixteen years of age, and on reaching his majority joined the ranks of the republican party. In 1878 he served the town of Oronoco as assessor. He has always taken an active interest in the welfare of schools, and has been an officer of his district nearly all of the time. Mr. Waldron's maternal grandsire, Joseph Doane, was the son of a Hollander who settled in New York State. His daughter, Rebecca, married Joseph Waldron, whose ancestors had dwelt in New York for several generations. The subject of this sketch was born in Cayuga county, January 15, 1842. His parents shortly afterward removed to Pennsylvania, and when he was eleven years old to Green Lake county, Wisconsin. Here he was reared to manhood on a farm, and received his schooling in the common schools. On August 14, 1862, he enlisted in Co. C, 32d Wis. Vol. Inf., and served until June, 1865, when he was honorably discharged. He participated in the battle of Bentonville, North Carolina, and in numerous minor engagements. He took part in the siege of Atlanta and in Sherman's march to the sea. Returning from the war, he was married on Christmas day, 1866, to Margaret Whitehead, whose parents, William and Sarah (Watson) Whitehead, emigrated to this country from England. They have four children, born and christened as follows: October 7, 1867, May; November 2, 1871, Rose; December 24, 1873, Cora; December 15, 1876, Leona; all living and an honor to their parentage.

MORTIMER M. CLARK, farmer, was born to Daniel and Charity Clark, at Cleveland, Ohio, June 9, 1840. His parents had removed there from Chautauqua county, New York, their own birthplace. Daniel Clark died when his son was but one year old, and his widow returned to New York, where she and the child resided with her parents. When Mortimer was four years of age his mother again married, and he was brought up by her brothers, one in New York and the other in Dodge county, Wisconsin. At fourteen young

Clark began life for himself, working during the summer on farms in the last-named locality, and attending school winters. He attended the high school at Beaver Dam one term. He was married August 19, 1862, to Frances M., daughter of Robert and Sarah McGlashan, who bore him four children, and passed from earth April 16, 1878, and was interred in Oronoco cemetery. The offspring above referred to were: Eva M., born July 26, 1863, now teaching in Columbia county, Wisconsin; Wilfred R., born May 2, 1866, now attending school and keeping books at Beaver Dam; Jessie M., born October, 1869, now at school in Pleasant Grove, this county; Earl M., born October 5, 1876. Mr. Clark became a resident of Olmsted county November 12, 1866, and purchased land on section 25, in the township of New Haven, adjoining this, where he resided four years. In 1870 he sold his farm property and settled in the village of Oronoco. In January, 1880, his barn, wagons, tools, etc., were totally destroyed by fire, and about a year later he lost his house and contents in the same manner. Mr. Clark was again married September 12, 1882, to Helen A., widow of Dr. John N. Farrand, whose biography is given elsewhere, and is now managing and residing upon her farm on section 17. He also owns 120 acres of land in Dunnell county, Dakota Territory. He is a member of Ashlar Lodge, No. 23, A.O.U.W., of Rochester, and Oronoco Lodge, No. 110, I.O.G.T. In politics Mr. Clark is a republican. He was chairman of the town board in 1871, and is now serving as constable, and enjoys the regard and esteem of his fellow-citizens.

ADOLPH BIERMAN, farmer, Rochester, was born in Christiana, Norway, in 1842. He received a liberal education in his native city. In 1862 he came to America, and in August of that year he enlisted in Co. I, 24th Wis. Inf., serving three years in the defense of the flag of his adopted country. He afterward returned to Norway for a few months. He came to Olmsted county in 1866. In the fall of that year he entered the employ of Andrew Nelson as book-keeper, acting in that capacity about seven years. In 1875 he was elected county auditor, and was afterward re-elected two successive terms. In the fall of 1882 he was nominated by the democrats of the first congressional district for congress, but was defeated by a small majority by Hon. Milo White, the republican candidate. He now devotes his entire attention to farming.

THOMAS DAVIDSON, farmer, Dover, was born in Westfield, Chautauqua county, New York, February 4, 1840. In 1857 his father's

family came to St. Charles. Our subject came to Olmsted county in 1866. In August, 1861, he enlisted in Co. D, 7th Minn. Inf., and was discharged August 16, 1865. He was married August 10, 1876, to Miss Laura H. Hart, a native of Ohio. The couple have two children: Frank, the eldest, and an infant, not yet named.

B. A. DOHERTY, farmer, was born in County Down, Ireland, February 2, 1833. When quite small he came with his parents to Canada, and in 1850 became a resident of the United States. At this time he engaged in farm labor in Massachusetts, where he remained several years. He subsequently returned to Stanstead county, Province of Quebec, and bought a farm. After spending a year and a half in the Pennsylvania oil regions, Mr. Doherty became a resident of Olmsted county, in 1865. He has followed farming ever since, beginning for himself in 1869, where he now resides, on section 33. He was married September 22, 1868, to M. J., relict of S. J. McDowell. Mr. D. was reared a Presbyterian, and now affiliates with the Methodist Episcopal church at Byron, of which his wife is a member. He is a republican in everything that the name implies, and is a respected and useful citizen. He has always taken an active interest in schools, and has been for some time clerk of his school district. His three children were born as here noted: Alice G., September 25, 1869; Nellie, September 7, 1871; Alma J., May 19, 1874.

DAVID MAXFIELD, farmer, is a son of James Maxfield, a soldier of 1812, who was born in New York. David Maxfield was born in Warren, Herkimer county, New York, December 7, 1821. He was reared there, receiving a limited common school education. Has always been accustomed to farm life; owned a farm which he tilled in Herkimer county. He worked at home till twenty-seven years old, and made all he has by his own industry. In this he was of course aided by his faithful spouse, to whom he was united in July, 1846. Her name is Margaret, and she is a daughter of Nicholas and Elizabeth Hoke, of New York; she was born in Stark, Herkimer county, February 18, 1823. In 1854 Mr. Maxfield emigrated west and bought a farm in Bremer county, Iowa, on which he dwelt till the fall of 1866. At this time he bought one hundred and forty acres of land on section 34, Kalmar, which has afforded him a home ever since. He now has two hundred and ninety acres in this township. A portion of this is rented; of the homestead farm one hundred and sixty-five acres are under cultivation, fifteen acres



being occupied by a grove. A handsome and convenient residence and other necessary buildings make his farm life a pleasant one. They are situated on an eminence and surrounded by a handsome grove. Mr. and Mrs. M. united with a Presbyterian church in Iowa, and still adhere to its tenets. Mr. Maxfield was chairman of Kalmar town board in 1879-80. He was then a republican, but is now independent. Was treasurer of the town one year, and in 1882 was elected justice of the peace, which office he now holds. Five children have been born to him, two dying when small girls; the others were: Abram Howard, born August 7, 1852, married Cerell Waldron, and is now proprietor of a lumber-yard at Huron, Dakota; David H., May 19, 1859, married Sarah Dean, resides with parents; Ellen C., January, 1850, married Robert J. Perry, died at Kasson, March 5, 1876.

ABNER GRANGER, dairyman, was born in Otsego county, New York, in October, 1840. He came to Olmsted county in 1867, and located near Rochester. He is now engaged quite extensively in dairying and finds it more profitable than farming. The firm of Winnie & Granger keep about fifty cows, and have no trouble of disposing of their milk in the city. These enterprising gentlemen, as well as others in the same line, should be encouraged by the public in every possible way. Dairying is destined to be one of the great industries of Minnesota. It will be a great auxiliary in developing her boundless resources and increasing her wealth. Mr. Granger was married in 1867, to Miss Louisa Topliff, a native of New York. George W., Chas. T. and Kate E. are the names of their children. He is a member of the I.O.O.F. at Rochester.

WILLIAM H. DODGE, lumber dealer, was born in Saratoga county, New York, March 24, 1821. He came to Rochester in 1867, and became a partner with E. E. Youmans in the lumber business. In 1869 he bought out his partner's interest, and has since been conducting the business alone. Mr. Dodge embraced religion at an early age and became a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a man who has attended strictly to his own private affairs, and has never sought for public or political honors, although he possesses the respect always accorded to honest upright men. He was married in 1842, to Miss Hannah M. Kilmer, also a native of Saratoga county. She died in 1860, and he was again married in 1861, to Miss Rachel P. Rodgers, a native of Massachusetts.

HENRY M. RICHARDSON, sheriff of Olmsted county, was born in

Orange county, Vermont, March 10, 1844. When eighteen years of age he enlisted in Co. D, 15th Vt. Inf., serving one year. In 1867 he came to Olmsted county, and located on a farm in Haverhill township. In the position of sheriff, to which he was chosen by the people of Olmsted county in 1881, he performs the duties devolving upon him with ability and zeal, and is in every way faithful to the trust and confidence bestowed upon him by the public. Mr. Richardson was married January 11, 1870, to Miss Jennie McCrillis, a native of Salem, Massachusetts. Harold J., William B. and Edith M. are the names of their children. He is a member of the I.O.O.F. of Rochester.

MILTON R., son of Lester and Eliza D. Wood, was born in Cataaugus county, New York, June 2, 1834. When nineteen years of age he came west and located in Barry county, Michigan. During the two years which he resided here he taught school. In 1855 he removed to Vernon county, Wisconsin, where he remained six years farming and teaching alternately. He was married July 3, 1860, to Miss Mary L. Smith, a native of Erie county, Pennsylvania. At the outbreak of the war Mr. Wood offered his services to his country, but was declined on account of poor eyesight, but in 1864 he was drafted, and joined Co. A, 25th Wis., uniting with Sherman's army at Atlanta. During the march to the sea he was taken ill, and unfitted for duty. He was discharged from the hospital at David's Island, New York harbor, at the close of the war. In 1867 he came and united his fortunes with Olmsted county, locating near Eyota. In 1879 he was elected register of deeds, and re-elected in 1881. He is father of seven children, whose names, in the order of their ages, are as follows: Fred L., Frank O., Bert, George, Charles, Carrie and Kate.

LYMAN TONDRO, proprietor of Cascade Mills, was born in Niagara county, New York, in 1842. In 1852 his father's family came west to Beloit, Wisconsin. In 1859 our subject went to Blackhawk county, Iowa, where he enlisted in 1862 in Co. B, 31st Ia. Inf. He spent two years in the service of his country. Mr. Tondro was married in 1867, to Miss Mary L. Hart, a native of New York. Frank, Florence and Lilian are the names of their children. The family are members of the Baptist church. The mills of which he is proprietor are described in another part of the work.

ROBERT SCHMID, proprietor of the Winona House, was born in Switzerland in 1833. In 1853 he came to America, locating at

Monroe, Wisconsin, thence to Red Wing, Minnesota, three years later, and from that place to Dodge county. He opened a store at Buchanan, which he carried on three years, after which he farmed a number of years. In 1867 he came to Rochester, and built a brewery, which he afterward sold. He then opened the Winona House, where he does a lucrative business. He was married in 1855, to Miss Susan Bishop. Adolph, Oscar, Ida, Emil, Robert Susie and Walter are the names of their children. Mr. Schmid is a member of the German I.O.O.F.

FRANK H. ALLEN (superintendent at Cole's Mills) was born in Boston, Massachusetts, December, 1849. When eighteen years of age the family came to Rochester, and entered the mill with John M. Cole, in the capacity of superintendent. Mr. Allen was married in 1871, to Miss Ella S. Lowry, a native of Pennsylvania. Herbert is the name of their only child. He and Mrs. Allen are members of the Congregational church. He is now serving his second term on the school board.

WALTER DIXON, hardware dealer, was born in Norfolk, England, in 1837. He left England in 1849, and came to America, locating in Bristol, Kendall county, Illinois, where he was engaged in the hardware business until 1866, when he came to Minnesota, first locating in Winona; thence to Eyota in 1867, where he has since been doing a prosperous business. He is one of Eyota's most respected citizens. He is a member of the Baptist church, and also of the A. F. and A. M. Mr. Dixon was married in 1861, to Miss Luna A. McOmber, a native of Rutland county, Vermont. Charles W. is the name of their only living child.

CHARLES J. BROOKNER, farmer, was born in Hanover, Germany, February 28, 1833. He received an ordinary education in the schools of his native land, and emigrated, in his twenty-first year, to the United States. The first winter after his arrival was spent in St. Louis, and he then went to Illinois and there attended the English schools. In the summer of 1856 he spent three months in Rochester, this county, during which time he pre-empted and secured his present farm of 160 acres on section 13. Returning to Illinois he remained there eleven years, and was married, October 27, 1864, to Anna E., daughter of D. C. and Lydia Lee, natives of New York. In the spring of 1867 Mr. Brookner became a permanent resident of the county, spending the first year in Rochester. The next year he took up his residence on the farm, where he has

dwelt ever since. He has taken a strong interest in the schools of his district, and served as an officer for the last dozen years. His political principles are those represented by the republican party. During the existence of the Farm Hill lodge of Good Templars, Mr. Brookner was among its most active members. His family includes two children, born as follows: George H., February 23, 1866; Ella, September 1, 1871. The former is now attending the Rochester seminary.

ALBERT S. GRANT, real-estate, insurance and collection agent, is a native of Cayuga county, New York, where he first drew breath, September 28, 1831. His parents were Benjamin and Martha (Cutting) Grant, natives of Massachusetts and Vermont. His mother died when he was but an infant, and with his father he came to Waupun, Wisconsin, at the age of sixteen. His schooling was received in the common schools of New York and Wisconsin, with the exception of one year in a select school at Waupun. He began life as a salesman, when of age, and followed that occupation several years, afterward holding the office of deputy sheriff of Dodge county, Wisconsin, and being engaged in the study of law with the late John Ware, in 1859 and 1860. Mr. Grant was accustomed to and expert in the use of edged tools from early youth, and for five years succeeding 1862 he superintended a large carriage and sleigh factory at Waupun. On December 13, 1855, Mr. Grant was wedded to Mary A., daughter of Benjamin and Susan Allis, natives of New York, then residing in Waupun. In 1867 the subject of this sketch became a resident of this county, arriving at Rochester August 1. Here he engaged in a general real-estate, insurance and collection business, and during the years 1870 and 1871, superintended a store there. Mr. Grant came to Oronoco in March, 1873, and purchased outlots G and F, on which he built his present residence the succeeding year, and has pursued the same callings here as in Rochester. Mr. Grant is a member of Rochester lodge, No. 13, I.O.O.F. In politics he is an ardent republican, and has served this township ever since 1879 as justice of the peace. In 1864 he took out letters patent on "Grant's shifting carriage rail," from which he has realized a considerable income. In 1872 he received a patent on a "dress-goods holder," for the use of salesmen in displaying goods, which is coming into favor among merchants.

ELIAS PRESTON, carpenter, is a native of the Province of Ontario, Canada, descended from natives of New York, William Preston



and Barbara Potter. His grandfather, Benjamin Preston, was a revolutionary soldier in the service of the colonies. Mrs. Elias Preston, christened Sarah, is a daughter of Reuben Granger, who served as lieutenant in Gen. Anthony Wayne's campaigns against the Indians; he married Rachel Boyce, both being natives of the Mohawk valley. Elias Preston was born August 2, 1812, and married March 4, 1834. He is the father of ten children, named below: William M., whose sketch follows; Calvin S., born August 10, 1837 (who served three years in 2d Minn. Cav. during the rebellion, and married Sarah P. Wright, of St. Paul, May 14, 1865, and lives in Rochester); Elias W., born July 3, 1839 (who served one year in Co. F, 2d Minn. Heavy Art., and now lives at Garden City, having married Mary E. Wright, a sister of his elder brother's wife, in December, 1868); Sarah D., born January 20, 1842, and died just seven months later; Emma I., born July 22, 1843, married July 4, 1868, to Addison N. Eaton, of this township, who is now deceased, and again married December 28, 1881, to C. H. Mathers, of Rochester, and now lives in that city; John J. A., born October 1, 1845, who now dwells in Minneapolis, and was married July 1, 1875, to Addie Curry, who died April 20, 1878, being again wedded to Jenny Maservy, of Garden City, November 29, 1880; Charles S. P., born July 19, 1848, who is now in Atkinson, Nebraska; Elizabeth G., born March 8, 1851, who married E. W. Gordon, October 16, 1878, and lives at Dover, this county; Francis G., born May 24, 1854, who makes his home at Oronoco; and Barbara E. A., born May 5, 1859, and died January 1, 1863. In the spring of 1849 Mr. Preston moved to Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, and to Minnesota in October, 1861, settling in Freeborn county. On October 1, 1867, he bought a farm on section 21, this town, which he sold three years later, and bought 5, 8 and 9, block 13, in the village of Oronoco, and five acres adjoining on section 8, and built his present residence on lot 9. At the age of seventy-one, after seeing twenty of his grandchildren, Mr. Preston framed and constructed two dwellings for his sons. Mrs. Preston is a member of the First Baptist church, of Rochester, but her husband has never broken his connection with the church in the east. The latter has always been a democrat, and served as town clerk and justice of the peace during his residence in Freeborn county.

WILLIAM M. PRESTON, farmer, named above, was born at Bowmanville, Ontario, April 9, 1835. He assisted his father in building

operations, and so acquired the trade. In 1856 he removed to Waupun, Wisconsin, from whence he went in company with his father to this state. On March 12, 1862, he enlisted in the 2d Bat. Minn. Light Art., from which he was discharged on account of poor health, January 27, 1863. Determined to serve in protecting the union, he again enlisted February 4, 1865, in Co. F, 1st Minn. Heavy Art., and served until September 27, 1865. The most important battle in which he participated was that of Corinth, during his first term of service. Returning to Freeborn county, he was married, March 8, 1870, to Susela C. Smith, a native of Ohio, and in May of the same year came to Oronoco, which has ever since been his home. In the fall of 1882, he purchased twenty-one acres of land, comprising outlots 1 to 9, inclusive, of the village of Oronoco, and built his present dwelling thereon. His offspring are enumerated herewith: Elias W. A., born April 19, 1871; John H., July 18, 1872, died August 9, 1878; Andrew R., April 25, 1875; Sarah A., December 23, 1878; Arthur T., November 15, 1880; Harda B., August 1, 1882.

COL. DENNIS H. WILLIAMS, agricultural dealer, was born in Belmont county, Ohio, in 1832. His father was a farmer by occupation. Our subject received his education at Allegheny College, in Meadville, Pennsylvania. In 1861 he enlisted in the 43d Ohio Inf., acting in the capacity of first lieutenant. Near the close of the war he was promoted to the rank of colonel of the 185th Ohio regt. At the close of the war he was appointed first lieutenant in the regular army, where he served about one year. In 1868 he came to Rochester and embarked in the implement business. He was married in 1857, to Miss Dorcas A. Johnston, also a native of Ohio. Mrs. Johnston is a member of the Presbyterian church.

CHARLES VAN CAMPEN, station agent of the W. & St. P. railroad, was born in Warren county, New Jersey, October 30, 1843. Thirteen years later the family emigrated to Lee county, Illinois, locating on a farm near Malugin's Grove. In August, 1862, our subject enlisted in Co. I, 89th Ill. Vol. Inf.; after which he participated in the battles of Shelbyville, Stone River, Liberty Gap, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, Knoxville, Strawberry Plains, and in all the engagements of the Atlanta campaign. He was wounded at Altoona, May 27, 1864, and remained in the hospital until June 25, 1865, when he was mustered out with his regiment, returning to Lee county. He was married October 20, 1868, to Miss Mary L. Elkins, a native

of Wyoming county, New York. Cora I. Howard C., Elsie M., Mabel G. and Homer A. are the names of their children. He and wife are members of the Universalist church. Mr. Van Campen is a member of the A. F. and A. M. and Home Commandery, being eminent commander of the latter organization.

EDWARD F. JUDD, grain dealer, was born in Danbury, Connecticut, October 31, 1841. He was reared a farmer. In the fall of 1869 he came to Rochester and began buying grain. In 1875 he became a partner with Samuel Whitten in the same line. Mr. Judd was married in 1862, to Miss Emma Myers, also a native of Connecticut. Edward S. and Cornelius M. are the names of the children. Mr. Judd is a prominent member of the A. F. and A. M., and is one of Rochester's most popular business men.

SUMNER SNOW, of Farmington, was born in Bloomfield, Essex county, Vermont, in the year 1840, his parents' names being Prince and Maria Snow. Sumner received a fair common school education and spent his boyhood days with his parents in his native town, working on a farm. In 1868 he emigrated to Minnesota, settling in the town of Farmington. In 1871 he was united in marriage with Miss Elida M. Bulen. His occupation is that of a farmer. Mr. Snow enlisted in the army in the war for the union at Essex county, Vermont, in May, 1861, being a member of Co. I, 3d regt. of Vt. Vols. He was honorably discharged July, 1865, having served his country as a soldier over four years. His regiment belonged to the army of the Potomac, and he was in all the principal engagements of that army, besides numerous skirmishes. In politics Mr. Snow is a democrat; in religious opinions he is a Universalist. Mr. and Mrs. Snow have been blessed with the birth of one child only, and when about five years old the little one was taken from them by death.

SAMUEL E. KEELER, harness dealer, was born in Hyde Park, Vermont, February 3, 1844. He received his education at Hyde Park Academy. In May, 1862, he enlisted in Co. H, 9th regt. Vt. Inf., serving until January, 1865. He was then made first lieutenant in the 8th Vt. Art., in which capacity he acted until the close of the war. He came to Minnesota in 1868, and opened a harness shop at Eyota. He is now justice of the peace, and is a member of the A. F. and A. M.

GEORGE MILLER, farmer, is a native of Schuylkill township, Pennsylvania, where he was born December 22, 1821. His father,

William Miller, was a native of the same state, as was his mother, Mary Lemon. Here young George passed his childhood, attending the subscription schools of the time and assisting his father on the farm until of age. On October 24, 1847, he married Ann E., daughter of Adam and Eliza Siter, natives of Pennsylvania. In August, 1868, Mr. Miller became a resident of Olmsted county, and the next spring purchased and settled on the quarter-section of section 12, Oronoco, which is still his home. Mrs. Miller is a member of the Baptist church, and Mr. Miller of the great democratic party. Their children number three, as here given: Eliza J., born August 26, 1848 (who married Alfred Stedman, whose life-sketch is elsewhere given); William S., born January 20, 1850 (who lives near Goodwin, Dakota, and married Mary Mars, January 23, 1876); John C., born January 21, 1852, and who lives near his brother.

WILLIAM W. GILBERT, grocer, was born in Wayne county, New York, April 12, 1832. When he was ten years of age his father's family emigrated to Wisconsin, locating in Waukesha county. His father was an ironworker by trade, but after coming west turned his attention to farming. In 1853 our subject went to California, and was there engaged in mining three years, meeting with good success. In 1856 he came to Plainview, Minnesota, and remained one year, after which he returned to Wisconsin, remaining here until 1869, when he came to Rochester and embarked in the grocery business. Mr. Gilbert was married in 1864, to Miss Ann McDowel, also a native of New York. Frank W., Hattie G. and Nellie M. are the names of their children.

PROF. CHARLES H. ROBERTS was born in Huron county, Ohio, October 24, 1842. His father was a farmer, and our subject received his earliest education in this practical school of agriculture. When he reached a proper age he began attending college at Norwalk, boarding at home, and making the trip on foot every day during the five years he attended. After graduating from that institution he entered the Northwestern Normal School at Milan. After completing a course there he was chosen superintendent of the public schools at that place, serving three years. He was then employed in the same capacity at Clyde, Ohio, for two years, after which his services were sought by the people of Geneva, where he acted as principal of the public schools and president of the normal schools of that city. In 1869 his services were secured by the school board of Rochester, where he acted as superintendent for



eight years, during which time it is due him to say that the schools were conducted in a very able manner. He was married at Milan, Ohio, July 8, 1866, to Miss Maria A. North, a native of Ohio. Maria A. and an infant are the only children born to the couple. In 1879 Mr. Roberts embarked in the furniture business in Rochester. He was the greenback congressional nominee in the fall of 1882, and received a large vote.

ARTHUR B. BLAIR, grain merchant, was born in Fletcher, Vermont, June 1, 1848. In 1869 he came to Olmsted county, and clerked in his brother's store until 1871, when he became a partner. The firm of Blair Bros. carried on business until 1882, when our subject withdrew from the firm and turned his attention to grain buying. He was married in 1874, to Miss Belle M. Sheardown, a native of Missouri. Paul B. and Ralph S. are the names of their children. Mr. Blair has an enviable reputation among his fellow citizens for integrity and fair dealing. He is a member of the A. F. and A. M.

REV. NOAH WIRT, deceased, was born near Philadelphia, April 25, 1798. His parents were natives of Germany. He early began preaching the doctrine of the Disciples, which he continued till the time of his death, which occurred at Oronoco July 25, 1869. He was married when twenty-five years old, to Fanny Mapes, a native of Connecticut. She preceded him to the other shore, passing away on January 13, 1869. They had nine children, of whom six are now living. Their names and places of residence are here given: George W. and Maria (wife of A. D. Allis) reside at Oronoco; Charilla, in Missouri; Alvin, at Wilmot, Minnesota; Mary and Warren, at Marshall, Minnesota. Mr. Wirt resided with his eldest living son, George W., and his various removals are noted in the biography of the latter.

DAVID L. KEYES, farmer, of Dover, was born in Windham county, Connecticut, March 31, 1838. He resided on the old homestead farm until 1869, when he came west, locating on section 35, Dover township, where he now has a beautiful home. He was married in 1859, to Miss Sarah A. Sherman, also a native of Windham county, Vermont. Eugene R., Darwin W. and Anna M. are the names of the children born to them. The family are American from as far back as the lineage can be traced. Mr. Keyes owns a large tract of land in Dover, and is one of the most prosperous farmers in Olmsted county.

MATHIAS SOLUM, merchant tailor, of Rochester, was born in Norway, March 20, 1851. He learned tailoring in that country, and at the age of seventeen came to America, locating in Winneshiek county, Iowa, where he remained until 1870, when he went to Winona, remaining there four years. From thence he moved to Rochester in 1875. Here he was for a number of years in the employ of John R. Cook & Co., as cutter. In 1881 he embarked in business for himself, and now employs from three to five men. He was married in 1873, to Miss Laura C. Drager, also a native of Norway. Clara N., Karl, Josephine and Laura are the names of their children.

ABRAHAM PEARCE, farmer, is among the earliest settlers of this region. Butler county, Ohio, is his birthplace, and his existence dates from November 15, 1830. His father was John Pearce, a native of New Jersey, who married Mary Kirby, of the same state. The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm, and attended the common schools of his locality. On March 11, 1855, he was married to Susannah, daughter of Christopher and Catharine Wisong, and the brave young couple immediately started for Minnesota, arriving in the state with nothing but strong hands and willing hearts upon which to depend for an existence, having borrowed money of friends with which to complete the journey. Immediately on their arrival Mr. Pearce took up government land in the township of Pine Island, adjoining this on the north, Oronoco being his postoffice. This claim was retained until 1870, when he sold it and removed to Rochester, thus becoming a citizen of this county. In 1878 he purchased 240 acres of land, two-thirds of which is on sections 5 and 6 of this township, and has ever since resided in Oronoco. He also owns three houses in Rochester, besides thirteen acres of timber in Mazeppa. All this property is the accumulation of his own industry, aided by that of his helpmeet. Mr. Pearce is a republican in politics, and served several terms as justice of the peace in Goodhue county. He is the father of eight children, as follows: J. A., born June 8, 1857; Mrs. Mary A. Alderson, February 3, 1859; Alice L., October 16, 1860; J. D., August 20, 1862; Minnie, July 15, 1864; Helen V., November 14, 1866; Edith L., December 8, 1868; Squire L., October 16, 1870.

ALFRED STEDMAN, farmer, is a native of England, having been ushered into existence in Kent county, April 14, 1845; his parents were Thomas Stedman and Mary *née* Barnes, now residing in

Wabasha county, on the opposite side of the road from the subject of this biography. In 1855 Thomas Stedman emigrated with his family to America, and settled for a short time near Syracuse, New York, subsequently removing to the Province of Ontario, where he remained until 1859, and then settling near Geneva, Wisconsin. It was in the schools of Geneva that Alfred received the best part of his education. In 1863 he came to Minnesota with his parents, and engaged with them in farming operations in Wabasha county. In 1870 he purchased eighty acres on section 1 of Oronoco, and shortly after married Eliza J. Miller, of this township, and commenced housekeeping on his farm, residing there ever since. He now possesses ninety acres in the adjoining town of Zumbro, and is in comfortable circumstances, the outcome of his perseverance and frugality. He is a member of the Baptist church, as is also Mrs. Stedman. In matters of public polity Mr. Stedman adheres to the principles of the republican party. Three children have been given to him, as follows: Harry P., born September 14, 1872; Alice A., born December 17, 1878; Anna M., born July 30, 1880.

LEVI W. ALLARD, farmer, was born in Conway, New Hampshire, March 10, 1825. His great-grandfather (Henry), grandfather (David) and father (David) were all born and died in the vicinity of Conway. His mother, Martha Moulton, was born and died in the same town. Mr. Allard was reared on a farm, and engaged in the calling of his father in Sandwich, New Hampshire. At twenty-three years of age he went to Boston, where he was employed five years, and returning thence engaged in farming in Sandwich, as above noted. He was married April 4, 1850, and began housekeeping in Charlestown, Massachusetts. His bride, Miss Lucy Moulton, was a granddaughter of Jonathan Moulton, who died at the age of ninety-four; her parents were Benjamin and Nancy Moulton, and she was born in Tamworth, New Hampshire, May 3, 1829. Mr. Allard moved west in 1865, and bought a farm in Lodi, Wisconsin. In 1870 he became a resident of Kalmar, purchasing 160 acres of land on sections 20 and 29, his residence being on the latter. He also has ten acres of timber-land. Mr. and Mrs. Allard are members of the Baptist church in Byron. The former accepts the principles of the republican party as the true system of public polity. Four children are recorded in this family, as below: Charles, March 24, 1853, married Margaret Cummings, and dwells with parents; Frank, Christmas day, 1855, married Clara Sprague, has a

farm in Claremont, Dodge county; Winfield, September 10, 1858, married Clara Burdine, resides near Woolsey, Dakota; Nancy, December 10, 1867.

HARVEY D. CORNWELL, farmer. Mr. Cornwell's parents, Chauncey Cornwell and Rosella Young, were natives of Connecticut, who removed to Wilby, Lake county, Ohio, where our subject was born, August 12, 1837. When he was fifteen years old his parents again moved westward, and settled on a farm at Lowell, Dodge county, Wisconsin. Mr. Cornwell's educational privileges were furnished by the common schools of Ohio and Wisconsin. He married a lady of New England parentage on Christmas day, 1860; her name was Louisa Jillson, and those of her parents were Warren Jillson and Lovisa Adams, both of Vermont. Mr. Cornwell and family spent the summer of 1862 in Plainview, Wabasha county, this state, after which he settled in Faribault county. In 1870 he took up his residence in New Haven, purchasing eighty acres of land on section 8, to which he soon after added forty acres by purchase. His worth and intelligence were soon discovered by his fellow-townsmen, and he was at once put to use as clerk of his school district, which position he has ever since filled. In 1872 he was a member of the town board; also served two years as assessor in Faribault county before coming here. His political principles are those represented by the republican party. Mr. and Mrs. Cornwell united with the Methodist Episcopal church at Pine Island in 1872. Their family includes five children, the eldest now living at Minneapolis, born to them as follows: Louis H., April 23, 1862; Frank, January 29, 1864; Chauncey, July 2, 1866; Belle, March 8, 1868; Nettie, February 7, 1880.

ALBERT HARRINGTON, grain dealer, of the firm of Van Dusen & Co., was born in Moravia, Cayuga county, New York. When he was four years of age the family removed to Homer, New York, where his father opened a hardware store, having previously been proprietor of a tannery. In 1856 they came to Winona county, Minnesota, locating at Saratoga. In the following year they moved to the city of Winona. Here our subject availed himself of the superior educational advantages afforded, graduating from the high schools in 1866. In 1867, having been appointed a cadet by William Windom, he went to West Point, where he remained two years, but finally left on account of sore eyes. He returned to Winona, and obtained a situation in the general office of the Winona &



St. Peter railroad, where he remained until 1871, in which year he came to Rochester, and was in the employ of Van Dusen & Co. until 1880, when he became a member of the firm. He was married in 1873, to Miss Laura Frick, a native of Pennsylvania. The names of the children born to them are Clara, Mary and Helen.

ALONZO T. STEBBINS, hardware merchant, was born in Mansfield, Massachusetts, in 1847. Came to Minnesota in 1857 with his father's family, who located in Winona county. In 1860 he began a course of study in the Winona high school. In 1865 he went to Boston, and entered Bryant & Stratton's commercial school, where he attended five months. In 1866 he began clerking in a hardware store in Winona, and in 1871 came to Rochester and embarked in business for himself. He was married in 1871, to Miss Ada L. Stebbins, a native of Windham county, Vermont. Mabel C. and George M., aged respectively seven and nine, are the names of their children.

PHILLIP M. NICKUM, farmer, Marion township, was born in Preble county, Ohio, in 1835. When he was quite young the family removed to Randolph county, Indiana. In 1870 he went to Missouri, and in April, 1871, came to Olmsted county, locating in Marion township. He was married in 1854, to Miss Melissa E. Badgely, a native of Ohio. Mary E., William H., Eldora A. and Minnie M. are the names of their children.

WILLIAM KING, farmer, is a son of Henry and Fredericka King, and was born in Stettin, Germany, on November 8, 1839. He married Mary Steffenhaagen, on April 5, 1861, and in 1864 he emigrated to America, and settled in Goodhue county, this state, where he remained seven years. In 1871 he bought two hundred acres of land on sections 13, 14 and 23 of this township, and erected his present residence on the latter. In 1879 his barn and four horses, several cattle, and agricultural tools, were burned by a fire set by lightning. This was a severe blow to a man who had begun with no capital, but his industry and perseverance has placed him in independent circumstances. Mr. King has always taken an active interest in the welfare of schools, and is giving his children an advantage he never enjoyed, a good English education. He has belonged to the republican party ever since he became a citizen. Both himself and wife are members of the Lutheran church, and are rearing in an exemplary manner their family of offspring, whose names and births are recorded as follows: William, born

June 9, 1862; Lena, born October 14, 1864; Fred, born October 7, 1869.

TIMOTHY A. WHITING, grain-dealer, was born in Erie county, New York, in February, 1827. When seventeen years of age he went with his father's family to Walworth county, Wisconsin. In 1850 he went to California, crossing the plains by wagon, where he spent a year in the mines. He returned east and remained until 1852, when he again went west, spending fourteen years in California, Oregon and Idaho, during which time he was engaged in mining and stock-raising. He returned to Wisconsin, thence to Virginia, where he remained five years looking after land interests which he had previously traded for. In 1872 he came to Rochester and embarked in the grain business. He now owns thirteen hundred and sixty acres of land in Minnesota, ten hundred of which is under cultivation. He was married in 1866, to Eliza Jamison. Ellis, Mary, Elbert T. and Delton D. are the names of his children. Mr. Whiting is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and also of the I.O.O.F.

DR. WILSON A. ALLEN was born March 6, 1834, in Madison county, Indiana. In 1852 he entered Franklin College, where he attended four years. In 1859 he began the study of medicine at Pendleton, Indiana. In 1862, having become dissatisfied with the old school theories, he turned his attention to homeopathy. In 1879 he received his diploma from the Hahnemann Medical College in Chicago. In 1865 he came to Plainview, Minnesota, and from that place to Rochester in 1872. He was married in 1855, to Miss Flora S. Huston, a native of Ohio. Dr. Allen stands among the leading physicians of Rochester, and is having a large practice.

JOHN H. KURTZMAN, boot and shoe dealer, was born in Lebanon county, Pennsylvania, in 1851. In 1866 the family came to Wisconsin, locating in Sparta, where our subject worked at his trade (boot and shoe making), having learned it in the east. In 1872 he came to Rochester, and opened a custom shop north of Bachly's meat market. At the end of eleven months he sold out to Mr. Turner and went to Minneapolis, starting in business on Washington avenue, remaining, however, but six weeks, when, on account of ill health, he suspended business, and traveled three months in the west. In August, 1873, he returned to Rochester, and again commenced business, employing from three to five men. In 1876 he opened in Clark and Whiten's block, where he is now doing a

thriving business. He was married in 1877, to Miss Hattie Ireland. John and Lottie are the names of their children. He and wife attend the Congregational church.

BEHREND CLAUSEN, of the hardware firm of Clauson & Adler, Rochester, was born in Germany in 1848. He came to America in 1871, working on a farm at Greenwood Prairie until 1873, when he entered the employ of Ozmun & Sons, where he remained until March, 1883, when he formed a partnership with H. F. Adler, and purchased the goods owned by Mr. Van Dooser. These young men possess good business qualifications, and we predict for them a prosperous future. Mr. Clausen was married in 1871, to Miss Christina Lorenzen, a native of Germany. Katie and Maggie are their children's names.

L. N. SMITH, son of Nelson J. and Metta Smith, was born in Holstein in the year 1842, and also received his education at that place. In 1865 he emigrated to America, landing in the great city of New York, where he remained for ten months, during which time he was engaged in the butchering business. After the expiration of this time he went to Juneau county, Wisconsin, where he kept hotel and a livery stable until the year 1872, when he removed to Eyota, Minnesota, where he engaged in the hotel, liquor and livery business. He is now engaged in the livery and saloon business. Mr. Smith was married to Mrs. Rosa Debielliers, of Wisconsin, in 1880.

JOHN W. BOOTH, hardware dealer, was born April 15, 1848, in Tioga county, New York. In 1864 he entered the Oswego Academy, where he attended four years. After coming to Rochester, in 1873, he was made assistant cashier in the Union National Bank, in which capacity he served until 1882, when he became a partner with A. Ozmun in the hardware business. Mr. Booth was married in 1876, to Miss Ella Kendall, of Winona. Two children have been given to them, whose names are May W. and Robert K. respectively. He is a member of the Universalist church, and also of the A. F. and A. M.

JOHN SWEENEY, blacksmith, was born in Fox Lake, Wisconsin, in 1851, where he resided until 1873, and where he learned the blacksmith trade. In 1873 he came to Rochester, and opened a shop, which he still runs. He was married in 1879, to Miss Margaret C. Montague, a native of Boston. Mary and William F. are the names of their children.

DR. AUGUSTUS W. STINCHFIELD was born in Franklin county, Maine, in 1842. He received his education at Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine, which institution invested him with a medical diploma in 1868. In the fall of that year he came west to Missouri, remaining in that state until 1872, when he came to Minnesota, and located in Rice county. In 1873 he came to Eyota, and is having an extensive practice. He was married in 1878, to Miss Mattie J. Bear, a native of Olmsted county. Nellie M. and Charlie I. are the names of their children. He is a member of the I.O.O.F. and also of the A. F. and A. M.

HENRY GERRY, Rochester, of the firm of Hibbard & Gerry, grocers, was born in Middlesex county, Massachusetts, August 3, 1849. He was reared a farmer, but at the age of nineteen began clerking at Maynard, Massachusetts. Two years later he entered a wholesale house in Boston, where he remained until 1873, when he came to Rochester, entering the employ of J. D. Blake & Co. In 1881 he became a partner with D. H. Moon, who was succeeded, in August of the same year, by Mr. Hibbard. His father, Charles Gerry, died in Sudbury, Massachusetts, having reached an advanced age. He had living, at the time of his death, seven sons, six daughters and thirty-four grandchildren. Our subject was married in 1875, to Miss Sarah Bear, a native of Ohio. They have two children, Helen L. and one that is not yet named. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

MARCUS A. ROBINSON, millwright. This subject is of Scotch descent. His father, Dr. Jedediah H. Robinson, was born in Vermont, and practiced medicine over forty years in New York. He married Mary Northrop, a native of Vermont also. Their son, herein sketched, was born in Livingston county, New York, on December 15, 1835. Dr. Robinson shortly after removed to Howard, Steuben county. Here the youthful Marcus attended the common school till thirteen years old, when he entered Howard Academy. At sixteen years of age he was apprenticed to a millwright at Corning. In 1854 he struck out for the growing west, and located at Huntley, McHenry county, Illinois, where he was employed in building operations. In 1856-7 he was employed at his trade in Winona county, this state, and returned again to Illinois. He was married April 28, 1858, to Ellen, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Campbell, who were Pennsylvania people. On September 11, 1861, M. A. Robinson enlisted in Co. I, 52d Ill. Vol. Inf. At the battle of Pittsburgh Landing he



received a wound which disabled him, and he was discharged from the service in consequence on August 27, 1862. As soon as he was able to travel he sought the invigorating climate of Minnesota, and finally decided to locate at Pine Island, Goodhue county, where he engaged at his trade as soon as his strength permitted. Here he acquired a home and dwelt till 1873. As his family included several boys, he naturally sought some location where they might be occupied, and therefore exchanged his village property for 200 acres of land on sections 11 and 12, New Haven, where his home has since been. The land has been tilled by his sons, while he continued to follow his chosen occupation. Mr. Robinson, is a member of Pine Island lodge, A. F. and A. M., and is a republican. His family includes eight sons and one daughter.

RASMUS PEDERSON, boot and shoe dealer, was born near the city of Svendborg, Denmark, in 1853. In 1874 he came to Rochester, afterward going to Winona, where he remained until 1878, when he again came to Rochester and commenced business for himself. He has been quite successful, having recently purchased a farm near Rochester, besides owning a neat residence in North Rochester. He was married in 1878, to Miss Jennie Nelson, a native of Wisconsin. His children's names, in the order of their ages, are as follows: George C. D., Robert C. M. and Cora I. G. He and family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

EDGAR THAYER, born at Hinsdale, Massachusetts, September 17, 1850, is a son of Gridley T. Thayer, a tanner, of thirty-five years' experience in his trade. When thirteen years old Edgar was engaged as clerk in a store of general merchandise owned by Messrs. Marshal & Carter, of Ellenburgh, New York. He was in their employment one season, then acted as clerk in a drug store in Chateaugay, New York, one summer and removed in the fall with his parents to Benton, Michigan. After an experience of two years upon a farm the family returned to Schroon Lake, New York, and G. T. Thayer bought a tannery, in which this son became an expert tanner at the age of nineteen years, and soon after married Elizabeth Lake, who was born at Crown Point, New York, February 10, 1851. When twenty years old he was given the entire charge of a large tannery at Schroon Lake, New York, a situation commonly held only by men with from fifteen to twenty years' experience in the business. At the expiration of one year he removed to Pottersville, New York, and took charge of the inside work in a tannery for a

year and a half. He was seized by a severe attack of "western fever," and removed to Viola, Minnesota, April 9, 1874. He followed farming eight years, then entered the employment of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company, as station agent at Viola. Mr. Thayer's mother died July 15, 1880, and he is the eldest surviving son of a family of six boys and three girls. Two of his brothers died several years ago. He has been D.G.W.C.T. of the I.O.G.T. for three years in succession, and during his residence in Viola has been a regular correspondent, under the *nom de plume* of "Eric," of the Rochester "Post." His articles in print are facetious and give evidence of the fairness and good humor which characterize all his dealings with his fellow citizens. He is the father of two sons, aged respectively five and two years. Young, trustworthy and efficient in every position to which he has been called, we bespeak for him a happy future.

NATHAN N. WILLIAMSON, farmer, son of James Williamson and Eunice *née* Briggs, was born March 30, 1830, in Oneida county, New York. He received most of his education in the primitive common schools of that region, attending a select school a short time. At the age of fourteen he was apprenticed to a carpenter and builder, and pursued that calling many years after reaching majority. When twenty years old he removed to Dodge county, Wisconsin, where he worked at his trade, and was married June 25, 1855, to Mary E., daughter of James F. and Louisa (Robinson) Clason. Eight children were born to the couple thus united, as named below: Emma L., born April 18, 1856 (who married Henry Moulton, of this township, December 25, 1875, and now resides here); Albert N., born September 24, 1858 (who married Celinda Waterman, of this township, on Christmas, 1881, and lives at home); Milan Ellis, born November 18, 1860, and who makes his home with his parents; Edwin, born January 23, 1862; George, born December 20, 1865; Daisy, born March 16, 1872; John E., born February 25, 1875; Charles Winfred, born July 1, 1877. In 1855 Mr. Williamson came to Minnesota and opened the first store kept at Preston, Fillmore county. This he sold a year later, and removed to St. Charles, Missouri, where he remained nine years, his eldest four children having been born there. Arriving in Olmsted county in 1874, he purchased a farm in Cascade township, which he afterward sold, and bought the southwest quarter of section 34, in this township. This he sold during the same year, and in 1875 he purchased eighty acres on

section 16, where he still resides. Since his residence here he has erected many farm buildings, built the Presbyterian church, and superintended the woodwork of the schoolhouse. Mr. Williamson is a member of the Oronoco lodge, No. 110, I.O.G.T. In politics he was formerly a democrat, but now affiliates with the greenback party. He served as school clerk from 1867 to 1873. It may be said to Mr. Williamson's credit that he arrived in Oronoco with but \$16 in cash, losing most of his household goods in transit from Missouri, and has accumulated his present property by his own industry and perseverance.

AARON W. DURKEE, woodworker, was born in Washington county, New York, in 1834. When eighteen years of age he came to Waupaca, Wisconsin, and secured employment in a sawmill in the lumbering district. After spending five years there they came to Lake City, Minnesota, residing there fifteen years, during which time he was engaged in carpentering. Thence he removed to Douglas Station, where he erected the first store building in the place. In 1875 he came to Rochester and started his planing-mill, where he does all kinds of woodwork. He was married in 1859, to Miss Maria Landon, a native of Connecticut. He is a member of the I.O.O.F.

JOSHUA H. KIRKHAM, farmer, is one of his country's defenders. Although a large family was dependent upon him (the eldest child being only eleven years old), he enlisted in Co. H, 11th Minn. Vol. Inf., August 15, 1864, and served until July 15, 1865. His regiment, being a new one, was employed in guarding Sherman's line of supply, during the world-famed campaign against Atlanta and to the sea, and if Mr. Kirkham saw no active battles it was not because he did not volunteer to do so. Joshua Kirkham is a son of Allen H. Kirkham and Cathariné J. Hicks, natives of New York. He was born in Cattaraugus county, that state, February 13, 1832. When he was two years old his parents moved to Macomb county, Michigan, and remained there until 1858, the youthful Joshua attending the common schools there and assisting on the farm. On January 6, 1852, he was united in marriage to Caroline A., daughter of Abner and Abigail (Resage) Stevens, who bore him eleven children, as follows: Thera A., born January 6, 1853, now residing in the town of Mazeppa, having married Alice Tupper, of that township, September 18, 1875; Orrin E., born October 19, 1854, who resides with his parents; Alice A., born June 29, 1856, died March 27,

1872; Harry L., born July 29, 1858, married Lucy J. Kellum, of Lincoln, Wisconsin, February 23, 1881, and now dwells at Merrill, same state; Alma C., born October 4, 1860, who now dwells in Mazeppa with her husband, James H. Smith, to whom she was wedded October 5, 1878; Blanch E., born May 2, 1862, married to William Baker, of Chester, this county, August 27, 1877, and who now lives at Nordland, Dakota Territory; Dora E., born April 10, 1865, and who resides with her parents; May B., born April 4, 1867, and who lives at home; Elton, born January 7, 1870; Clarence, born March 8, 1872; Bertha E., born October 31, 1876. Mr. Kirkham came to Minnesota in 1858, and bought land in the town of Pine Island, adjoining Oronoco. In July, 1875, he bought eighty acres of land on section 5, Oronoco, on which he has ever since resided. In politics he has always been a democrat, and has served as school director and road commissioner many years. The father of this subject was also a Union soldier, having enlisted in 1861, in the 8th reg. Minn. Vol. Inf. He died at Jackson, Mississippi, from the effects of his service, in August, 1863. He had five sons in the Union army, one of whom died in Libby prison.

HENRY W. GREENWOOD, farmer, is a son of Stephen Greenwood, an early settler of the adjoining town of Farmington, in this county, Stephen Greenwood's parents, James and Betsey Greenwood, were born in Worcester county, Massachusetts. They removed to Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, where Stephen was born and where he married Louisa M., daughter of John B. and Susan Buck, natives of Connecticut and Vermont. Here the subject of this sketch was born November 1, 1849. His parents shortly after removed to Wisconsin, and came to Farmington in 1859. In the fall of 1871 he bought the northwest quarter of section 25 in this township, and since his marriage, March 1, 1875, has continued to reside thereon. Mrs. Greenwood is a native of Susquehanna county, also, her parents, Thomas and Sarah (Papplewell) Todd, having emigrated from England and settled there. Mr. Greenwood has taken a prominent position among our citizens from his first settlement here. Was a chief instrument in the organization of his school district, six years ago, and has been one of its officers ever since. He served as town assessor in 1881-2. His political principles are republican. Mr. and Mrs. Greenwood were members of the Farm Hill Good Templars' Lodge while in existence, and are members of the Oronoco Presbyterian church, in which the former is an elder.



ROBERT W. BONDY, merchant, Dover Center, was born in Lower Canada August 24, 1856. When thirteen years of age he came west to Kasson, Minnesota, thence to Dover township, where he attended school a short time. He spent one year in St. Charles and afterward resided a year in Chatfield, during which time he was in the employ of Milo White. Subsequently he came to Dover Center, where he clerked until 1879, when he embarked in business for himself. He was married in 1878, to Miss Ida Glidden, a native of Michigan. Jessie M. is the name of their only child.

CHARLES H. HAWLEY, postmaster, Dover, was born at Mount Carroll, Illinois, February 25, 1840. He came to Minnesota in 1855, locating at Chatfield, together with his father, Charles G. Hawley, who invested largely in land in Fillmore county. In 1861 our subject went to Colorado, remaining six months. Subsequently he enlisted in the 5th Minn. Inf., and with his company was sent to Fort Ridgely, remaining until the Sioux outbreak, when they were sent to the frontier. Here our subject had some lively experience in Indian fighting. At the end of ten months he was discharged, when he returned to Chatfield, where he remained a year, after which he returned to Colorado, where he kept hotel at Black Hawk and Central City alternately. In August, 1864, he raised a company of cavalry and spent four months more fighting Indians. In the battle of Big Sandy he was wounded in the arm by an arrow, the head of which he still preserves. He located in Dover in 1875, and was appointed postmaster in 1878. In 1876 he was made justice of the peace, serving five years. He was married in 1866, to Miss Marion L. Wills, a native of Vermont. Albert G., Bessie M., Lelia R. are the names of their children. Mr. Hawley is a member of the A. F. and A. M. and Orient Chapter at St. Charles, and the Home Commandery at Rochester.

DR. FRANCIS L. BEECHER, of Rochester, dentist, was born in Washington, Franklin county, Missouri, in 1850. He received his education in that city, and in 1868 came to St. Paul, and was for a time under the instruction of his brother in the dental business. From that city he went to Philadelphia and took a course in the Dental College, from which he graduated in 1872. In 1876 he came to Rochester, where he has since resided, and where he is meeting with excellent success. He has won for himself the well merited confidence and esteem of the citizens of Rochester and vicinity. He was married in 1876, to Miss L. A. Anderson, a native of St. Louis.

THOMAS P. HALL, wagon manufacturer, was born in London, Canada, in 1847. When twenty-one years of age he went to San Francisco, California, where he remained three years, during which time he worked at carriagemaking, having learned the trade in Canada. In 1870 he came to Chicago, where he was for four years employed as foreman in a factory in that city. In 1876 he came to Rochester and embarked in business for himself, and is building up a large trade. Mr. Hall was married in 1876, to Miss Libbie M. Burr, of Batavia, Illinois. Arthur B. is the only living child.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD, furniture dealer, was born in the State of New York February 24, 1831. In 1857 he emigrated to La Porte county, Indiana, and began farming. In 1859 he went to Oconto, Wisconsin, and for two years taught in the public schools at that place. In 1860 he was elected superintendent of schools in that county, serving six years. He also held several other public offices in that county. In 1867 he returned to La Porte and engaged in the furniture business. In 1877 he came to Rochester and opened a large furniture store, where he is doing a flourishing business. He was married in 1854, to Miss Elizabeth Culver, a native of New York State.

DR. FRED. R. MOSSE was born in Madison, Wisconsin, November 1, 1851. In 1869 he entered the Wisconsin University at Madison, from which institution he graduated in 1874. In the same year he entered the Homeopathic Medical College of Chicago and received his diploma in 1877, after which he came to Rochester and is now having a lucrative practice. He was married in 1881, to Miss Flora L. Hurd, a native of Canada. He is a member of the Congregational church.

EVERARD S. CROWELL, photographer, Rochester, was born in Belgrade, Maine, October 26, 1848. He learned photography in his native state. When twenty years of age he came west to Eau Claire, Wisconsin, and opened a photographic gallery. In 1878 he came to Rochester, where he is now doing a prosperous business, which he well deserves, being one of the finest artists in the state. Mr. Crowell was married in 1869, to Miss Lizzie Smith. Herbert E., Mable E. and Lulu M. are their children's names. Mr. Crowell is a member of the Free Will Baptist church.

JAMES C. THOMPSON, leather dealer, was born in Chautauqua county, New York, in 1856. His father is now a leather merchant at Silver Creek. Our subject came to Rochester in 1878 and com-

menced business, dealing largely in leather and hides. He carries a stock worth eight to ten thousand dollars. He is an honest, enterprising business man and should have the patronage of the citizens of Rochester as well as adjacent towns.

REV. WILLIAM H. SWARTZ, Rochester, was born in Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, April 15, 1837. He received his early education at Clearfield Academy, after which he studied theology two years at Bristol. He was there ordained a Baptist minister. From 1859 to 1878 he devoted his entire time and attention to his ministerial labors. He was married July 4, 1861, to Miss Mary R. Frank, also a native of Pennsylvania. Grace (deceased), Elmer F., Wilbur, Lizzie, Harry (deceased), Arthur, Estella, Nellie, Lincoln and Flossie are the names of the children born to them. The family came to Minnesota in 1878 and located at Rochester. Mr. Swartz now has charge of a congregation at Farm Hill and Pleasant Grove.

REV. A. H. KERR, of Rochester, Minnesota, was born April 1, 1819, in Washington county, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Jefferson College in 1843, and three years later from the Western Theological Seminary, Allegheny City, Pennsylvania. His first charge was the Presbyterian church of South Bend, Indiana, then of the church of La Grange, Indiana. In 1852 he took charge of the First Presbyterian church of Dubuque, Iowa, and in 1856 removed to St. Peter, Minnesota. Here he organized a church and remained its pastor for twenty-two years. During this time he assisted in the organization of quite a number of churches and gave considerable of his time to missionary work on the frontier. From 1867 to 1872 he served as superintendent of public schools for Nicollet county. During his labors at St. Peter two houses of worship were built, the last costing some \$15,000, a stone structure, is one of the finest churches outside the large cities. In 1857 he organized the church with twelve members and on his resignation of the pastorate there were one hundred and forty of a membership, the roll from the beginning having over four hundred names. When the hospital for insane was located at St. Peter, in 1866, Mr. Kerr was appointed one of the trustees, and afterward was made secretary and treasurer of the institution. He held these positions until after his removal to Rochester, Minnesota, in 1878, and by election of the Board was made steward of the second hospital for insane, located at Rochester. This position he still retains. Mr. Kerr has no church charge as the financial interests of the hospital occupy his



WILLIAM ECKLES.





time, though he often fills the pulpits in the city and vicinity. For three years from 1862 he was chaplain of the 9th reg. Minn. Vols.; the regiment served one year on the frontier after the Indian outbreak of 1862, and two years in the South. Mr. Kerr was married to Elizabeth Craig, of Cross Creek Village, Washington county, Pennsylvania, October 25, 1847. They have lost four children and three are living. Their eldest, Effie, now Mrs. E. R. Moore, resides at St. Peter in the old home. Walter Craig, a graduate of Cornell University, New York, and for ten years professor of mechanic arts in that institution, is now in New York city, connected with the Westinghouse Engine Company. Their youngest, Henry Hampton, is at home.

WALTER D. MORRIS, assistant cashier of the Union National Bank, was born in Fredonia, Chautauqua county, New York, April 12, 1856. He received his early education at the public schools of that town and afterward took a course in the state normal school. His father is one of the leading attorneys in Chautauqua county, has served one term in the state legislature, and in 1868 was a member of the constitutional convention. Our subject came to Rochester in 1879, and in 1880 entered the Union National Bank, of which institution he was made assistant cashier in January, 1883. He was married in August, 1882, to Miss Mary A. Archibald, who is also a native of Chautauqua county; Archibald and Lorenzo are the names of their children.

PROF. DELBERT DARLING, of Darling's Business College, was born in Portage county, Wisconsin, December, 1853. In 1861 the family moved to Mitchell county, Iowa, where his father enlisted; he afterward died in the service of his country. In 1863 our subject returned to Wisconsin where he received a high school education and subsequently graduated from a commercial college, since which his entire time and attention has been devoted to teaching. In 1879 he came to Rochester and established the business college which has since grown to prominence among similar institutions in the state; the average attendance is about one hundred pupils, many of whom are from adjoining states. He was married in 1878, to Miss Jennie Dahl, a native of Lacrosse, Wisconsin; Delos D. and Edgar E. are the names of his children.

JOHN N. FARRAND, physician, deceased, was born August 2, 1843, at Fairfield, Vermont, where his parents still reside. The deceased assisted his father in cultivating his farm, attending school

and beginning to teach at an early age; his earnings were applied in improving his education. He was married to Miss Helen A. Butler, daughter of E. S. and S. A. Butler, who now dwells, as then, at Fairfield, Vermont. Young Farrand was at this time preparing himself for the practice of medicine, and graduated from the medical department of Michigan University, at Ann Arbor, in 1879; the following year he came to Oronoco and purchased a farm on section 17, where he resided until his untimely taking-off. Immediately on his arrival he began what proved a successful practice of his chosen profession. He was a member of Oronoco lodge, No. 52, I.O.O.F.; was an ardent republican, and took a strong interest in public affairs, and was faithful and unselfish in all his relations, public and private; he was clerk of the independent school district of Oronoco at his death. On June 23, 1880, while fishing in the river, he was drowned by the capsizing of a boat. Four children survive him, as follows: Corydon B., born July 18, 1870; Thomas R., July 27, 1873; Helen S., October 7, 1876; Albert M., June 7, 1878.

PROFESSOR HORACE WITHERSTINE, Dover Center, was born in Herkimer county, New York, April 14, 1852. He received his early education at that place, and graduated at Fairfield Academy in 1871. In 1872 he came to Minnesota, and took a course in the Minneapolis Business College. In 1878 he was made principal of the public schools at Elgin. At the end of three years his services were secured by the citizens of Dover Center, and under his management the Dover schools have attained an excellent reputation. He was married in the fall of 1881, to Miss Amelia Hatfield, a native of Olmsted county. Willie H. is the name of their only child.

REV. JOHN W. STAFFORD, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church of Rochester, was born in Beeston, Nottinghamshire, England, December 6, 1843. In the spring of 1857 he came to America, and located in Greenwich, New York, where he remained until the fall of 1861, when he came west to Minnesota. He received his education at Hamlin University, joined the Methodist Episcopal conference in 1867, and for some time after entered upon his ministerial duties. He traveled over what he terms the "pioneer circuit" of the state. He was first stationed at Stillwater, from whence he was removed to Anoka, thence to Minneapolis, then to St. Paul, serving Grace and Jackson street churches with great acceptability; and in 1881 he was located at Rochester. He was

for three years financial agent for the Hamlin University, during which time the college building was completed, and the school, which had been suspended eleven years, entered upon a career of prosperity. The same untiring zeal that characterized his financial efforts, pervades his actions as a minister. is visible in his able and earnest efforts in the pulpit, and undoubtedly is the great moving aim and motive of his life. His whole ambition seems to be the faithful discharge of the arduous duties devolving upon him. Mr. Stafford was married May 9, 1865, to Miss Hattie R. Mathews, a native of Boston, Massachusetts.

DR. JOEL H. HORTON was born in Portage county, Ohio, April 29, 1830. He received his early education at Hiram Academy, and in 1852 received his diploma from the Rochester Medical College, of Rochester, New York, after which he returned to his native state, and located in Wooster. He afterward practiced in Michigan, Iowa City, Iowa, and Hiram, Ohio. He came to Rochester in 1881, and is building up a lucrative practice.

JAMES HEATON COOPER, the youngest son of Jesse and Selema Cooper, was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, September 2, 1829. The family moved to Ripley county, Indiana, in the spring of 1837 and settled on a farm, where James remained until the spring of 1847, receiving a common school education. In March, 1847, he hired as clerk in the store of D. McF. Raid, in whose employ he remained for seven years. In the spring of 1854 he went into the mercantile business for himself, which he followed for eight years; was married to Anna L. Hart, June 20, 1860, near Hamilton, Ohio, when he moved to and settled on a farm near Caledonia, Houston county, Minnesota, in the spring of 1863, following farming until 1871. He enlisted in Co. G, 1st Minn. reg., in the spring of 1865, and was elected third sergeant. He joined the regiment at Burkeville, Virginia, commanded by Lieut-Col. Downie; saw the remains of President Lincoln and the funeral procession leave Washington for Springfield, and was present at the grand review in Washington in June, 1865. He remained with the regiment until its discharge at Fort Snelling in August; was absent four months and carried an empty musket the entire time. In the fall of 1870 Mr. Cooper was elected county auditor, in which position he served for two terms. In the fall of 1881 he moved to Olmsted county and settled on a farm in Eyota township, purchasing from John H. Bliss, in 1874, where he now resides. Mr. Cooper



has had five children, and has suffered the bereavement of losing four. The remaining child is a daughter, Hattie M., aged sixteen years.

CHARLES R. KEYES, M.D., is a son of S. M. and Olive (Hanson) Keyes, who now reside in the place of their birth, Chelsea, Orange county, Vermont. Here Dr. Keyes was born April 21, 1856. His grandparents were also natives of the same state, and his mother's father served through the war of 1812. Dr. Keyes was reared on a farm near the village of Chelsea, and attended its schools. His medical education was received at the university of Vermont at Burlington, from which he graduated in 1881. After a few months' practice at home, he came west and settled at Byron in February, 1882. His practice is growing and successful. He is a Baptist in religious faith, and a republican in politics.

JOSEPH GEORGE IKARO, M. D., was born January 10, 1859, in Fort Peter, Nicollet county, this state, settled in Rock Dell in the early spring of 1882, and practices medicine. The doctor is a graduate of the medical college of Keokuk, Iowa, and practiced medicine one year in Pierce county, Wisconsin, before he came here. His father, Capt. Asbjorn K. Skaro, was born in Hallingdal, Norway, in 1829, and emigrated to the United States about 1845, and enlisted in the regular army about one year later. He took part in the Mexican, Indian and civil wars. During the Indian war he was stationed at the then Fort Fairmount in Blue Earth county, this state. Capt. Skaro was killed in the battle of Nashville, Tennessee, while in command of Co. E, 2d Minn. regt., belonging to Gen. Thomas's brigade.

PROFESSOR EUGENE W. YOUNG was born June 12, 1852, in Randolph, Cattaraugus county, New York. Three years later the family emigrated to Madison, Wisconsin. In 1861 his father, William C., enlisted in Co. E, 8th Wis. Inf., occupying the rank of captain. He spent three years and a half in the army. In 1865 the family came to Minnesota, locating at Waseca, where our subject attended school until twenty years of age when he entered the Northfield University, from which institution he graduated in 1879. Since that time his attention has been devoted to teaching. He came to Rochester in August, 1882, and was the prime mover in establishing the seminary, which promises to develop into a prominent educational institution. He was married in 1879, to Miss Emma L. Wilson, a native of St. Lawrence county, New York. Herbert W. is the name of their only child.

## ADDITIONAL MATTER.\*

### ROCHESTER TOWNSHIP.

ROCHESTER TOWNSHIP is described as T. 106 N., of R. 14 W., and it originally comprised thirty-six full sections, but upon the incorporation of the city of Rochester, the two northeast sections of this township were taken to form a part of the area of the city. Therefore Rochester township now comprises the remaining thirty-four sections and is bounded as follows: on the north by the city of Rochester (two miles) and Cascade township (four miles), on the east by Marion township, on the south by High Forest township, and on the west by Salem township. The surface is undulating and the soil is a clayey loam, and the land is adapted to the raising of both grass and grain, the higher rolling land to the raising of grain, and the low land to the raising of grass and to pasturage. The township is traversed by the south branch of the Zumbro river, which enters the township from the south, about one-half mile from its southwest corner, and runs northwest through section 31 into Salem township, and thence back into Rochester township about midway of its length on its west side, and it then runs in a zigzag course in a northeasterly direction through the township and then on through the city of Rochester. The river is fed by smaller streams in its course. Willow Creek enters the township from the south, about three miles east of where the Zumbro river first enters it, and runs in a meandering course in a northeasterly direction, through the township, and empties into Bear creek on the northeast section (12) of the township. This creek is also increased by other streams in its course. Along the Zumbro river, in this township, there is timber extending from a quarter to half a mile in width on each side of the river, and comprising the oak, ash, elm, maple, walnut and basswood. There are also groves in other parts of the township comprising the oak, poplar and cherry. This timber not only supplies its owners with fuel, but is also a source of revenue to them, as it helps to supply the market for wood in the city.

\* This matter was handed us too late for insertion under the head designed for it.

## EARLY SETTLEMENTS, ETC.

John Bamber pre-empted the farm where he now lives, in section 10 of Rochester township, and where he arrived December 14, 1854. His wife, Lucy Bamber, died in October, 1855, being the second person that died in the township, the first being William H. Bamber, his nephew, who died in August preceding Mrs. Bamber's death.

Patrick Conway pre-empted the north half of both the southeast and the southwest quarter of section 26, in this township, and still lives on his claim. He arrived in May, 1855. But instead of the primitive log cabin for a first residence, Mr. Conway was still more primitive in his first abode, as he dug a cave in the side of the hill in which he lived during the first year of his residence upon his present farm.

Almon Eugene Hull pre-empted the northeast quarter of section 13 in this township in the spring of 1855, and he has since resided on his claim. Mrs. Hannah Williams settled in Rochester township in February, 1856. William C. Kent bought a claim of one Birch, in April, 1856, in section 26, in this township, and still owns it. And Charles Cornforth bought a claim of one Goold, in June, 1858, in section 9, in this township, and he has since resided on the same farm. The occupation of the citizens of Rochester township is farming.

## TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION.

The organization of Rochester township was "effected at an election held at the court house in the township of Rochester on the 11th day of May, A.D., 1858," when Peter F. Lamshee was elected chairman of the board of supervisors, and Ozer A. Hadley and Samuel Stone supervisors, and Thomas Brooks was elected township clerk. Since 1858 the chairman of the board of supervisors and the township clerk have been elected as follows:

Chairman of the board of supervisors—David Whitney, 1859–60; J. N. McLane, 1861; J. F. J. Harmon, 1862; John Severn, 1863; John Forbes, 1864–6; J. F. J. Harmon, 1867; Orlin McComber, 1868–70; Martin Purcell, 1871; Patrick Gardner, 1872; I. M. Westfall, 1873–4; S. Olin, 1875; John C. Enke, 1876; John Bourquin, 1877; S. Olin, 1878–80; Charles Cornforth, 1881–3.

Township clerk—John Kent, 1859–60; H. L. R. Jones, 1861–3; John Bamber, 1864–72; Fred C. Smith, 1873–5; O. F. Ostrander, 1876; Fred C. Smith, 1877–83.

The Southern Minnesota Fair Grounds are situated in the southern part of Rochester township, bordering upon the city.

These grounds compose eighty acres, and have been fitted up, for the purpose of holding fairs and exhibitions, at a cost of several thousand dollars. The buildings comprise a main exhibition building, covering about a quarter of an acre, an amphitheatre, which will seat 2,500 people, and booths for the sale of refreshments, etc. There are also stalls on the grounds for the shelter of about four hundred horses and cattle, and pens for the accommodation of sheep and swine. There is a track on the grounds for trotting and racing a mile in circuit, and it is the best in the state. The Southern Minnesota Fair Association hold a fair and exhibition on their grounds annually. The president of the association is C. H. Chadboarn, of the city of Rochester, and the secretary is C. Van Campen, also of the city of Rochester.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

STEPHEN GREENWOOD, farmer, became a citizen of Minnesota in December, 1859, at that time purchasing one-half of section 31, Farmington, which still constitutes his homestead. Here he has fine buildings and all the conveniences that go to make a farmer's life happy and easy. Mr. Greenwood raises large numbers of horses, as well as other stock. He is a native of Pennsylvania, having been born in Susquehanna county, on the 15th of September, 1821. His parents, James Greenwood and Betsey Rice, were natives of Worcester county, Massachusetts; Abel Rice, his grandfather, served the colonies as a revolutionary soldier. On the 4th of December, 1844, Stephen Greenwood and Louisa M. Buck were united in marriage, and are still pursuing the journey of life in happy accord. Mrs. Greenwood's parents were John B. and Susan Chamberlain-Buck, born in Connecticut and Vermont, respectively. Mr. Greenwood pre-empted government land in Marquette county, Wisconsin, in 1850, and tilled it up to the time of his removal to this county. He has always given his attention to his large private interests, and left others to debate questions of religion and politics. In voting, he has always been a republican, as are his sons. The latter are three in number, the eldest and youngest settled on farms in this township, and the other two miles distant, in Oronoco. One daughter was given to the family August 7, 1861, and christened Lillian B. She married Bertrand Stacy, and dwells on section 33, this town.

LEROY ALBERT GREENWOOD, son of the above, dwells on section 29, Farmington, of which he owns the southwest quarter; this was



purchased in 1875. He was born in Marquette county, Wisconsin, on the seventy-ninth anniversary of the nation's existence—July 4, 1864. He was but five years of age when his father brought him to Minnesota, and nearly all of his life has been spent here. His education was mostly provided by the common school of his father's district; three months in the city schools of LaCrosse supplemented this. He was married February 18, 1878, to Miss Elizabeth Healey, who was born in LaGrange county, Indiana, October 9, 1854; her parents—William and Jane Healey—were born in England. Mr. and Mrs. Greenwood are members of the Rochester Presbyterian church. They have one child, Arthur Lee, born May 20, 1882. When Mr. Greenwood was in his third year, he destroyed his left eye by thrusting one of the points of a pair of scissors in it. In 1875 he had the ball removed and its place supplied by a glass eye. Like his father and brothers, he is found on political issues with the republican party.

MICHAEL KITZMANN, farmer, resides on section 20, Farmington, where he has two hundred and eighty acres of land; beside this estate he has a quarter section in Oronoco township, on which dwell his parents—John and Caroline (Kuenke) Kitzmann, born and married in Prussia. Mr. Kitzmann, senior, was born December 12, 1814, and married on the twenty-sixth of the same month, 1835; he emigrated to America in 1854, and engaged in farming in Marquette county, Wisconsin, where he remained till May, 1863, when he became a resident of Olmsted county. The family is connected with the Lutheran church, and includes four children, as follows: Michael; Frederick and John, at Grafton, Dakota; August, with his parents. The subject of this sketch was born in the same locality as his father, on the first day of the year, 1838; he came to Olmsted county with his father and bought one hundred and twenty acres of land in Haverhill township, on which he dwelt five years; he then disposed of this land and acquired his present homestead. He was married in Wisconsin on January 21, 1862, to Augusta Reinke, a native of the same place as himself, her birth dating March 11, 1841. They have nine children, all at home, born and christened as below; December 7, 1862, John; October 30, 1864, Henry; February 1, 1867, Emma; November 1, 1868, Michael; Christmas day, 1870, George; June 1, 1873, Ida; March 23, 1876, Charles; May 23, 1880, Bertha; August 4, 1883, Clara. All the members of the family were

baptized in the Lutheran church. Mr. Kitzmann has been two years a member of the town board of supervisors. He is a republican.

GEORGE D. BRADSHAW, farmer, became a resident of Kalmar in the spring of 1866, and is reckoned among its most intelligent and progressive citizens. He was a member of the town board of supervisors in 1878. In political issues he is found with the democratic party. Although not an atheist, he is unable to affiliate with any existing church organization. Is a member of Mantorville Lodge, A.O.U.W. G. D. Bradshaw was born in Morgan county, Illinois, July 21, 1846; his parents, William and Sarah Bradshaw, were born in Kentucky and Virginia, respectively. He was reared on an Illinois farm, receiving a common school education. On his arrival in this county he engaged for ten years in farm labor. In 1876 he purchased the farm which has since constituted his home; it embraces one hundred and eight acres, and lies on section 6, the road dividing it from Dodge county. Tiring of the inconveniences of single life, he wooed and in 1868 wedded Miss Julia Postier, a sister of Henry Postier, elsewhere mentioned. Six children have come, as below, to call him father: Oscar, January 28, 1872; Annie, November 2, 1874; John, November 11, 1877; Elizabeth, April 3, 1879; Edith, October 17, 1880; infant daughter, yet unnamed, October 11, 1882.

THOMAS BRODERICK, miller, is a native of County Cork, Ireland, where he began his earthly pilgrimage on May 5, 1848. When but a small infant his parents brought him to America, settling in Canada. Here he received the educational benefits conferred by the common schools, assisting his father on the farm till fourteen years old; at the latter age he was apprenticed for four years to a miller, and has followed his present occupation nearly ever since. In 1870 he came to the United States and spent two years in the employ of the Winona and St. Peter Railway Company, with headquarters at Winona. After spending a year each in the Red Jacket Mills in Blue Earth county and the City Mills in Mankato, he rented Fugle's mill in Pleasant Grove, this county; this he operated two years and then bought Middleton's mill on section 17, Kalmar, of which he at once took possession, and has since operated it successfully and profitably. This mill is 34×36 feet in dimensions, three stories high above the basement, and has a capacity of forty barrels of flour per

day. In 1880 Mr. Broderick was married to Miss Nora Murphy, who was born in the city of Washington. Mr. Broderick is a democrat, and the family is included in the Rochester Roman Catholic society. A son and daughter have been added to the flock, as below : John J., August 6, 1881 ; Mary C., September 7, 1883.

THOMAS BRYAN, farmer, was born in Barnston, Stanstead county, Quebec, July 24, 1836. His parents, James Bryant and Rachel Jenkenson, were born and married in County Wicklow, Ireland, and emigrated to America in 1831. Thomas assisted in farm operations, attending the district school and spending one term at an academy. His first and present estate is located in Cascade township, where he purchased eighty acres, in November, 1866, on section 18 ; here his residence stands. He has since acquired 160 acres more by various purchases, and has a superb farm, his house being about in its center. Returning soon to Canada, he was married there, March 18, 1868, to Alma L. Cleaveland, a native of the same town as himself ; her parents were William and Sarah (Baldwin) Cleaveland. Immediately after marriage they took up their residence here, where they are now surrounded by the comforts of life, provided by their own industry. In religion they are Episcopalians, and Mr. Bryan is counted among the Republican voters. Their children were born as follows : Laura D., September 26, 1869 ; Arthur W., February 18, 1874 ; Nellie G., January 21, 1877 ; George F., September 5, 1878 ; Edward H., October 11, 1880.

JACOB GRASSLE, farmer and stock-dealer (see portrait). The subject of this sketch has certainly done his share in developing the resources of this country, and in encouraging the stock-growers. He has, ever since his residence here, kept a large number of animals on his farm, and induced others to do the same. He is now tilling 1,100 acres of land, residing on the northeast quarter of section 13, Kalmar. For many years before coming to Minnesota Mr. Grassle was engaged in buying cattle in Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin, and driving them to the Chicago market. He has been a resident of this state since 1864, at which time he bought forty acres of land where he now dwells. Before the railroad was in operation here he drove stock to La Crosse and shipped by rail thence. He now has a stock-yard on the Zumbrota branch of the W. & St. P. railway, where cars are loaded almost every day. In 1878 he shipped ten car-loads of hogs ; in 1882 he shipped 370 cars. An average of seventy-five cars of cattle per year have been shipped, and the num-

ber is constantly increasing. He also handles large numbers of sheep and horses. In early years he went as far west as New Uln, and to Eau Claire, Wisconsin, to buy stock but his territory is now limited to a district of about forty miles square. He frequently makes shipments from Lake City, Zumbrota and Plainview. In the spring of 1883 he opened a meat market, in partnership with John Grimm, in Rochester, where a dozen beeves are disposed of per week, beside other meats. In the great tornado of July 21, 1883. Mr. Grassle suffered a loss of over \$3,000. Among the buildings destroyed on his farm was a barn 190×60 feet, with ell 100×60. When he removed here from Illinois he brought seventy-four team horses. Jacob Grassle was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, June 1, 1834. He emigrated to America when sixteen years old, and was employed by a butcher in Milwaukee and subsequently in Chicago. For two years he kept a shop of his own in the latter city. He was married at Milwaukee in July, 1856, to Caroline Wild, a native of the same province as himself. Four children have been given to them, of whom only one is living, namely, Jacob, born July 22, 1863. Mr. Grassle is a Lutheran and a democrat. He joined the I.O.O.F. in Milwaukee, and is now a member of the Rochester lodge.

LEWIS W. WRIGHT (see portrait), deceased, the subject of this sketch, was a native of Connecticut and was born in 1800. His educational advantages were limited, but he contrived to fit himself for a useful life. When fifteen years old he was apprenticed to a tanner, currier and shoemaker—all those callings being combined in those days. During his apprenticeship he was permitted to attend school a short time in the winter. Mr. Wright was twice married, the first time in Michigan, the bride being Miss Almira Clark, who died and left one son, who was christened Justus, and now resides in Rochester. Returning to New York Mr. Wright married Rachael M. Radclift, a native of that state, in 1839. This lady now resides on the estate surrounded by her children. Mr. Wright became a resident of this county in 1854, first locating in Marion township, near Rochester, where he resided six years. After a year's residence in the city, he bought a farm on section 30, Cascade, which he continued to till up to the time of his death, February 2, 1873. He was one of the first justices of the peace appointed in the county, and held the office several years. He was also actively connected with the management of school affairs many



years. In political matters he affiliated with the democratic party. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at the time of his death. Himself and wife joined the Presbyterian church in the east, but united with the Methodists on coming here. He was universally kind, and was known as the poor man's friend. Seven children survive him. Their marriages and residences are thus recorded: Josephine, Harry Wolford, California; Edgar N., here; Almira, John Davidson, Wrighttown, Minnesota; Lewis H., Jenny Parker, Afton, Dakota; Louisa, Charles Claffin, Rochester, this state; Leora, Albert Dart, on paternal estate; Silas J. A., here.

THOMAS DEAN, farmer, was born in Lanark, Ontario, December 1, 1842, and received the training of a farmer's son, attending the common schools. In 1865 he removed to Elroy, Wisconsin, where he was employed in farm labor during the summer and in the pineries in winter. In 1867 he came to Kalmar, and spent two winters in the pinery after arrival here. He is now tilling rented land. On June 9, 1881, he was married to Emily, daughter of Martin G. Patterson. She was born in Ambrose, Wisconsin, June 16, 1857. They have one child, Mark, born March 17, 1882. Mr. Dean is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and always votes the republican ticket.

JOHN PETT, farmer, was born in Walpole parish, Norfolk, England, November 27, 1821, and remained in that country until his thirtieth year, being employed in farm labor. He was married November 17, 1846, to Martha Young. They had two children, both of whom are married and residing in the State of New York. James and Martha (Johnson) are their names. Mr. Pett emigrated to the United States with his family in 1851, arriving at Herkimer, New York, in November. Here Mrs. Pett died on the 26th of this month. After working at the cooper's trade some years with his brother in New York, our subject resided four years in Ohio, eight years in Michigan and seven in Nebraska. He became a resident of Kalmar in May, 1879, and has since tilled land belonging to his brother, mentioned below. On August 8, 1883, he was married to Johanna Peterson, a native of Denmark. Mr. Pett was at one time a member of the Scotch Presbyterian church, and subsequently joined the Methodist Episcopal church. He has always voted the republican ticket since becoming a citizen of the United States.

ROBERT PETT, farmer, was born at the same place as his brother, above mentioned, on July 4, 1833. When four years old, his mother

died, and being the youngest of a large family, he had few advantages, his education being entirely neglected. His natural abilities, however, have carried him along in this world very successfully. At sixteen he came to America and was employed as a cooper by his brother in New York. From thence he removed to Dodge county, Wisconsin, in 1856, and to Kalmar in 1860. On August 13, 1862, his name was enrolled in the service of his adopted country, and he was assigned to Co. H, 6th reg. Minn. Vols. After one year of service he was transferred to an artillery corps. All of his service was rendered on the western frontier, and was well endured. The only injury he received was a weakness of the lungs, caused by a very severe attack of measles. His discharge dates July 24, 1865. On returning to Kalmar he purchased the northeast quarter of section 35, where he has dwelt and followed farming ever since. His real-estate in this township now includes 560 acres. Mr. Pett is a member of Ashlar Lodge, A.O.U.W., at Rochester. In religious faith himself and wife are Methodists, and republicans in politics. Eme-line Simonton, to whom Mr. Pett was married on February 4, 1856, is a native of Pennsylvania. They have one child, Annie E., who was born May 11, 1866.

JOHN SOBLE, shoemaker, one of the pioneers of this township, was born in German Flats, New York, January 19, 1815. His parents, Daniel and Catharine Soble, were born in Montgomery county, same state. Daniel Soble was a United States soldier in the war of 1812, and his father, who emigrated from Germany, served the colonies through the revolution. Mr. Soble was brought up on a farm and began work at shoemaking when eighteen years old. He has been employed in that avocation nearly all his life since. He was married on May 22, 1837, to Catharine Hake, who died in 1858, leaving two children. The elder, Almira, was born May 22, 1837, married David Roof and resides in Byron. Emily was born June 30, 1842, married Wenn Bucklen and dwells in Minneapolis. In the year 1853 Mr. Soble explored this region, but finding no inhabitants, returned to New York. In 1854 he came here with his family and claimed 120 acres of land on the Zumbro river, in Kalmar. He soon sold his claim to this land and pre-empted 80 acres on section 27, where he lived ten years. After a residence of some years in Renville county, this state, he returned to Byron, where he purchased a house and has ever since been occupied at the shoemaker's bench. He served here one term as justice of the peace.

His political ideas are in unison with those of the democratic party. In religious belief he is a Universalist. On July 9, 1875, Mr. Soble was married to Miranda, daughter of Christ Christianson, and widow of Peter Peterson. She has two sons, who have adopted the surname of Soble : Andrew, born February 14, 1863 ; and Peter, April 16, 1866. Both reside here, the former being employed by the Winona & St. Peter Railway Company.

CORNELIUS C. FINN, farmer, is a native of County Cork, Ireland, having been born in the parish of Arfield, March 14, 1831. His father was a farmer, and his early life was spent in the country, most of the time at school. When seventeen years of age he crossed the Atlantic, and spent some time in working on the farm of an uncle in Oneida county, New York. At nineteen he was employed as a foreman of construction on a railroad in New York. Three years later he took charge of a similar force on the Port Hope and Lindsay railway in Canada, where he remained three years, and subsequently served the same period on the Detroit and Milwaukee railroad. He was married at Grand Haven on April 27, 1859, to Margaret Elward, a native of Tipperary county, Ireland ; within three weeks after his marriage Mr. Finn set out for Minnesota. He came to Kalmar and bought eighty acres of land on section 15, where his present residence stands. During the construction of the Winona and St. Peter railroad Mr. Finn spent two years on that work. Within half a dozen years after his arrival he purchased eighty acres of land adjoining that already in his possession ; beside this he now owns 100 acres on section 11, and 80 on 25. The homestead, and much of the other land, was covered with undergrowth when he acquired it, and has been cleared and prepared for the plow at the expense of much hard labor, most of it that of the proprietor. Mr. Finn is a man of intelligence, and enjoys the confidence and regard of his townsmen. He has served three years as justice of the peace ; his political tenets are democratic. The family were all baptized in the Roman Catholic church. There are ten children, all save the eldest at home ; Annie married Michael Nichols and dwells in Milton, Dodge county. Following are the names of the others, in the order of age : Ella, John, Julia, Mary, William, Maggie, George, Elizabeth, Cornelius, Leo.

GEORGE W. WALDRON, farmer, is a son of Robert Waldron, of Cascade, elsewhere mentioned. His birth took place in the town of Sherwood, Branch county, Michigan, December 19, 1838. He as-

sisted his father on the farm, and attended the common schools of Michigan. After the removal of the family to Illinois, he attended the academy at Lee Center. Mr. Waldron was in his eighteenth year when he became a resident of Minnesota, and has dwelt here ever since with the exception of two years spent on the plains with headquarters at Denver, Colorado; here he was engaged in mining and in freighting between Omaha and Denver. In 1865 he returned to Olmsted county and settled on his farm. This comprises eighty acres on section 24, Kalmar, where his residence is located, and a like amount on section 19, Cascade. He is at present chairman of the board of supervisors, and was a member of the same body in 1880 and 1881. Has been fifteen years clerk of his school district. His political tenets are those of the democratic party. He was reared by his mother in the Christian church, which now represents his faith. Mrs. Waldron is an Episcopalian. This couple was united in marriage on July 4, 1863. Mrs. Waldron's maiden name was Anna Bird, and she was born in Canada, January 31, 1841; her parents, William and Anna Bird, were born in England. Mr. Waldron is a member of Ashlar Lodge No. 23, A.O.U.W., at Rochester. He has one child, Robert George, born June 14, 1864, now attending school at Rochester.

AMOS PARKS, farmer, is a descendant of a long line of New England farmers of Scotch descent. His father, Joseph Parks, was a native of New Hampshire, and served his country through the war of 1812. His mother, Sallie, was a daughter of Samuel Taylor, who also served in the war of 1812. Sally Taylor was born in Connecticut. Joseph Parks engaged in farming in Sheridan, Clinton county, New York, where the subject of this sketch was born August 17, 1813. His education was furnished by the common schools of Clinton and Chautauqua counties. He was married November 28, 1836, to Clarissa Parks, who was born in North Hero, Vermont, March 21, 1819. Her parents' names were Elihu and Hannah, the latter a native of Vermont, and the former of New Hampshire. Mr. Parks was one of the pioneers of Wisconsin as well as Minnesota, settling in Fond du Lac county, in the former state, in 1846. Here he cleared and tilled a farm in the oak openings. He removed to Olmsted county in 1857, and bought a farm on section 35, Farmington, now dwelling thereon. He has sold a portion of the estate, and now retains but 100 acres. He has but one child, William, who was born October 31, 1841; he married Melinda Southwick, and now



lives near Grafton, Dakota. Mr. Parks has taken a prominent part in developing the county and sustaining its credit and interests. He was at one time elected justice of the peace, and insisted on a settlement of all cases brought before him, thus maintaining "the peace." Several cases referred to him from other justices were settled by this means, as he would have no other way. Mr. Parks is an ardent republican as has been ever since the organization of the party. He has been assessor of his town and chairman of its board of supervisors; was county commissioner eight years. With some assistance from one of his fellow-citizens, he secured sufficient subscriptions for bounty to avoid a draft in the town during the late civil war. He is a member of the Masonic order, retaining connection with the lodge and chapter at Rochester. In regard to theology, Mr. and Mrs. Parks are Deists.

WILLIAM SEARLES, farmer, was born in Barton, Cambridge, England, May 12, 1830. When an infant he was adopted by his grandfather, who began to teach him his trade of wagonmaker when he was eleven years of age. He was married, October 21, 1852, and at once emigrated to America, settling first at Albany, New York, where he followed his trade. He shortly removed to Troy and worked in the cars-hops of the Troy & Boston railroad. In 1854 he went to Illinois, and assisted in building and organizing the Illinois Central shops at Amboy. Mr. Searles became a resident of Olmsted county in 1856, taking a claim in Haverhill township, on which he dwelt four years. He traded this claim, in 1860, for eighty acres of land on section 25, Farmington, where he settled down. About this time he was deprived of the use of his eyes for five years by inflammation, which made him blind. On recovering his eyesight Mr. Searles went ahead with his accustomed vigor, and now owns a section of prairie land, besides forty acres of timber. In 1878 he raised over 11,000 bushels of grain, wheat comprising 8,500 bushels. His barns and tool-sheds were swept away by the tornado of July 21, 1883, but he at once set to work to rebuild and now has matters in good shape again. His crops were also injured fifty per cent. During the tornado which destroyed North Rochester on August 21, 1883, he was on the road near the doomed city, and was blown some distance with his team and buggy, the latter being ruined, with the harness, and one of the horses killed. Mr. Searles possesses one of those happy natures that look at the bright side of life, and he goes about his business without stopping to com-



JACOB GRASSLE.



plain, feeling that he is more fortunate than many citizens of the county. He is a member of the blue lodge, A. F. and A. M., at Elgin, and of the chapter and commandery of the same order at Rochester; is also a member of the I.O.O.F. at the latter place; is an independent democrat; has served two terms as supervisor, and been fifteen years school clerk. Himself and wife were reared in the Episcopal church, and still adhere to its teachings. Mrs. Searles' maiden name was Mary A. Smith, and she was born in Mel-bourne, Cambridge, May 5, 1826. Six children have been given them. The eldest, William, was born in Troy, New York, December 15, 1853, he married Augusta Ferris, a widow, and resides at Verdi, Minnesota; Mrs. Searles has one son, Lewis, aged fourteen. The rest of the elder Searles' offsprings are at home, and were born as follows: Duane, April 22, 1858; Arthur, September 17, 1860; Annie May, July 26, 1863; Sidney, February 14, 1866; Ellen Browning, January 26, 1870.

CHRISTIAN DEWITZ, deceased, was born near Berlin, Prussia, in 1798, and resided there fifty-one years, being engaged in farming and dealing in cattle. He was married when twenty-one years old, to Sophia Lange. In 1847 he emigrated to the United States and settled in Dodge county, Wisconsin, where he followed farming fifteen years. After spending two seasons in Winona county he came to Farmington, in 1864, and bought one-fourth of section 24, where the balance of his life was spent. His death took place in January, 1880. His wife preceded him to the "better land," having passed away June 23, 1870. The whole family was identified with the German Evangelical church, and instrumental in building the neat chapel which stands near the homestead. Three sons now reside in this township, and two sons and three daughters in Wisconsin. Shortly after coming here Mr. Dewitz sold his farm to his son Henry and retired from active life.

ERNEST DEWITZ, farmer, is the youngest son of Christian Dewitz, above mentioned. Was born at the same place as his father, April 28, 1847, and was but three months old when brought to this country. His education was received in the common schools of Wisconsin, where he was reared on a farm. He remained with his father till 1860, when he purchased one-fourth of section 26, Farmington, on which his home has been till this time. His domain now includes a half-section of the superb farming-land which Farmington township affords. He was married, July 10, 1869, to Margaret



Schacht, who was born in Blue Island, near Chicago, August 3, 1852. Mr. Dewitz is a thorough republican in national principle, and a worthy member of the Evangelical church. The family includes seven promising children, added to it as follows: January 3, 1870, Annie S.; April 18, 1871, Ernest E.; February 11, 1873, William H.; December 3, 1875, August A.; June 16, 1877, Emily F.; February 16, 1870, Margaret H.; June 12, 1882, Conrad L.

HENRY SCHMELZER, farmer, is a native of Nassau, Germany, where he first drew breath on August 15, 1802. He has always been a farmer. Was married in 1826, to Barbara Christ, a native of the same village as himself (Stephenshausen), born November 9, 1806. Their four children were born in the same place, and came to America with the parents in December, 1854, the winter being spent in Illinois. From thence they removed to Olmsted county, arriving June 23, 1855. Mr. Schmelzer claimed the southwest quarter of section 4, Cascade, on which he still resides with his younger son, George. The two daughters, Mary and Julia, dwell near Lake Benton, Minnesota. The former married John Enke, and the latter William Ocker. The family belongs to the Roman Catholic church.

JACOB SCHMELZER, son of the above, dates existence from February 15, 1827. On the arrival of the family in Cascade, he pre-empted the southeast quarter of section 6, on which he has dwelt and followed farming since 1861. Previous to the latter date he assisted his father in opening up his farm. He has been four times elected town supervisor, and is independent in politics. In 1859, March 24, he married Magdalena Ruegg, who was born in the village of Illnau, Zurich, Switzerland, January 2, 1828. They have three living children, all at home. Their births date as below: Jacob, January 6, 1861; Annie, July 24, 1863; Charles, June 8, 1867.

FREDERICK PHILIP POSTIER, farmer, is a son of William Postier, elsewhere mentioned, and is a native of the same province as his father, being ushered into the world on March 11, 1838. His education in the German common schools was finished before the family emigrated to the United States. His youth after arrival here was passed in hard labor, and his knowledge of English—by no means limited—was gathered at odd intervals. Arriving in Kalmar with his family in 1855, he was employed as a farm laborer. In 1859 he bought forty acres of land on section 9, which he afterward

disposed of. In 1863 he bought his homestead, embracing the south-east quarter of section 13. Now has 196 acres beside on sections 10 and 11. On November 12, 1860, he was united in marriage to Margaret Ann, daughter of Peter Young, of Piermasons, Germany; she was born in New York city, and has always been called "Annie." Their four children were born as follows: Sophronia, February 19, 1862; Robert Erwin, March 3, 1864; Adeline, February 21, 1869; May, January 31, 1882. In religious faith Mr. Postier is a Universalist and in politics a democrat. He saw some severe experiences in early days. He started on foot to file on his land at Winona with fifty cents in his pocket. For his dinner, on the way, he cut a slice from a large pumpkin which he found in a field. Arrived at Winona he earned money for land-office fees by sawing wood at fifty cents a cord. Having braved the hardships of frontier life, he is now prepared to pass a peaceful old age, surrounded by the comforts that his industry has accumulated.

CHARLES POSTIER, brother of the above, was born at the same place, January 2, 1840. He was in his twelfth year when he landed in America and fifteen when he arrived in Kalmar. Like his brothers, he has always been a hard worker, and has always voted the democratic ticket. After earning something by farm labor he bought eighty acres of prairie land in 1861. This he afterward sold. He has owned his present farm of eighty acres on section 24 since 1874. In September, 1880, his residence was consumed by fire and this loss for a time somewhat embarrassed him financially; but with characteristic energy and persistence, he is pulling through. Mr. Postier was reared under the teachings of the Lutheran church, and still adheres to its faith. He was married April 17, 1869, to Miss Priscilla, daughter of Nathan and Parmelia Hendricks, all of Pennsylvania, and elsewhere mentioned in this work. Their offspring were born and christened as below: February 28, 1871, Charles; October 24, 1872, Frank; June 16, 1874, Albert; November 17, 1876, Kate; February 24, 1877, John; December 6, 1881, Cora; February 21, 1883, Louisa.

CONRAD SCHACHT (deceased) was one of the pioneers of this county and a substantial citizen and farmer. He was a native of the village of Elfde, in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, and was born November 24, 1813. He was always accustomed to agriculture and remained in his native land until thirty-six years old. He was married at thirty-one to Marie Johnson, a native of the same village.

In 1849 he crossed the Atlantic, and dwelt four years on a farm in Cook county, Illinois. In 1853 he opened a hotel in Winona where he remained a year and a half, coming to Farmington in 1855; he took up a claim on section 14, where he dwelt the remainder of his days. At one time he owned 960 acres of land and was possessed of a section at his death, which took place December 21, 1881. The entire family was reared in the Lutheran church, and still finds a religious home in the church of that denomination at Potsdam, half a mile from the homestead dwelling. Mr. Schacht was a faithful supporter of the United States government as administered by the republican party. He was many years town treasurer and several terms supervisor. His youngest son has been one year town clerk. There are four children; their marriages and residences are in that order below noted: Hiram, section 14; Margaret, H. Burns, Oakwood, Wabasha county; Catharine, K. H. Lamprecht, Oakwood; Conrad, Jr., born November 3, 1859. After attending the Potsdam school some years he spent several terms in the city schools of Rochester. His home has always been on the home farm. He was married October 28, 1879, to Marie Frahm, sister of George Frahm, whose biography appears elsewhere in this volume. They have one child, born July 16, 1880, and christened Albert C.

HIRAM SOUTHWICK, farmer, owns the west half of the southeast quarter of section 35, Farmington, on which he has dwelt since the fall of 1863. His birthplace is now known as the town of Colden, Erie county, New York. On October 23, 1817, when he was ushered into this world of woes, it was known as Holland, Niagara county. His father, Jesse Southwick, was born in Bolton, Massachusetts, and his mother, Sarah Sprague, was a native of Danby, Vermont. The family is of Quaker extraction. Enoch, father of Jesse Southwick, was a stern adherent of that sect, of whose faith his wife, Mary, was a preacher. Hiram Southwick lived on the farm where he was born till forty-five years old, when he sold it and took up his present residence. He was a delegate in the convention which organized a republican party in his native state; was a delegate in nearly every county and assembly district convention during his residence there after such organization, and was nine successive years assessor of his town. His marriage took place on January 26, 1839, the bride being Miss Nancy M., a sister of Amos Parks, elsewhere mentioned, and they are still sharing each other's joys and sorrows. Although not affiliating with any church, Mr. Southwick

is a believer in the Christian religion. Three children have been given to the family, as below noted: Sarah J., June 9, 1841, now teaching near Grafton, Dakota; Lucy Melinda, February 1, 1844, married William Parks, resides near Grafton; William L., August 20, 1853, home here, married Ida Jacobs.

L. ANDRUS, Rochester, builder and architect, was born in Jefferson county, New York, in 1820. In 1864 he came to Rochester, where he has since resided. In 1840 he began carpentering, and since that time has devoted his time and attention to that trade. He has done a great deal of building in Rochester and vicinity. He was married in 1845, to Miss Betsy Pennell, also a native of Jefferson county, New York. Mary L. (deceased), Clara and William P. are their children's names. The family are members of the Baptist church in Rochester.

THOMAS BROOKS, Rochester, was born in Berwick, Pennsylvania, May 1, 1824. When two years old, his father's family removed to Tioga county, New York. In 1856 our subject came to Minnesota, locating in Rochester. In 1858 he was elected town clerk of Cascade, Rochester and Haverhill townships. After the city was organized he was elected city recorder. In 1860 he was elected county commissioner, and during the term acted as chairman of that body. In 1869 he was elected register of deeds, serving in that office four years. During the war he was clerk in the quartermaster's department at Bowling Green, Kentucky. He was married in 1848, to Miss Lois B. Ovenshire, a native of Pennsylvania. He and wife are members of the Baptist church. Mr. Brooks is a member of the A. F. and A. M. at Rochester. In 1881 he was appointed clerk in the treasury department at Washington, after which he removed to that city, and now resides there.

HOLDEN R. SMITH, farmer, Rochester, was born in Schuyler county, New York. The family removed to Oneida county when he was quite young, remaining there until he was about twenty years of age. He received his early education in the common schools and completed it in the academy at Munnsville. Subsequently he came to Sauk county, Wisconsin, and, in 1861, enlisted in 1st Wis. Cav. He spent over three years in the service of his country, participating in some of the severest battles of the war. He was married in 1859, to Miss Mary Smith, a native of Herkimer county, New York. Six children have been born to them, the eldest being thirteen years of age. He is an Odd-Fellow, and also a member of



the G.A.R. On September 29, 1883, he was nominated for registrar of deeds on the republican ticket.

GEORGE DE WITT, ice-dealer, Rochester, was born in Alden, Erie county, New York, in 1839. His father's family came to Wisconsin in 1843. Our subject came to Rochester in 1861. In 1862 he enlisted in Co. F, 9th Minn. Inf. After serving one year he became seriously ill, and was sent to the hospital at Fort Snelling, and was discharged in May, 1863. He was married in May, 1861, to Miss McLard. He is a member of the Masonic lodge and chapter. Mrs. De Witt is a member of the Episcopal church.

ASA KIDDER, farmer, is a grandson of Thomas Kidder, who served in the revolutionary war. The family is originally from Kidderminster, England. Aaron, son of Thomas Kidder, was born in New York; he married Sophia Barnes, a native of Vermont, and lived for some years in Weathersfield, Vermont, where was born the subject of this sketch, July 10, 1824. From six to thirty-five years of age the latter lived in Maine, whither his parents had removed. His education was supplied by the common school and Richfield Institute. He was ten years employed in lumbering, worked some time as ship-carpenter, and run an engine two years. He was married in 1858, to Hannah Susan Freeman, a native of Waldoborough, Maine. He located his land on section 7, Farmington, in 1857. Here he dwelt two years, and broke up fifty acres. By splitting rails "to halves" he secured sufficient to fence this improvement, and on his removal to Wisconsin all were stolen from him. In 1859 he went to Dunn county, Wisconsin, and worked ten years for a large lumber firm; seven years of this time were spent by himself and wife in the kitchen, cooking for lumber crews. In the fall of 1869 they returned to the farm, and have made their home here since. The estate now includes half a section. Mr. Kidder is a staunch republican, and helped to organize the party in the east. He has been postmaster at Farm Hill since March 8, 1881. The family are Universalists. There is one child, Amanda Atlanta, born December 6, 1865. During the first winter of his residence here, Mr. Kidder lived on corn pancakes a good deal of the time. On one occasion, with a companion, he crossed the Zumbro in a log canoe, barely escaping from drowning by constant baling of the craft. On reaching Oronoco they could procure no flour, but brought home some "shorts," on which they subsisted for a period.

LUDWIG VIESTADT, retired farmer, was born in Mechlenburg-Schwerin, Germany, March 3, 1818. His wife, Sophie, born Sadorf, was born in the same locality, August 7, 1822. In 1852 he removed to the United States, and was employed as a day-laborer near Milwaukee for seven years. In 1859 he settled on a farm near Lewiston, Winona county, where he remained till 1874, and then removed to Viola. After farming here a short time, he sold his land to his eldest son, and resides in a house built for him by the latter near his own. The family are all Lutherans. The children reside as follows : Fred, described below ; Carl, at St. Paul ; Sophie, now Mrs. Henry Webber, in Quincy ; Amelia, Mrs. Louis Landon, Elmira ; William, with eldest brother. The first-born, John, died here some years ago.

FREDERICK VIESTADT, eldest son of above, was born in the same place, November 23, 1845. His education was furnished by two months spent in an English school near Milwaukee, and two years in the German schools of that city. Private study has, however, developed his natural abilities, and he is a leading citizen of his township. He has been elected treasurer and supervisor, and served many years as school director. He is independent of political partisanship. In 1870 he bought one-fourth of section 25, Viola, where he has dwelt ever since. His domain now includes two hundred and eighty acres, and is handsomely improved. His wife, Catharina, born Luemann, in Hanover, Germany, February 21, 1849, was joined to him October 22, 1868. Their children were given them on the dates following : Ludwig, September 11, 1869 ; Bertha, June 18, 1872 ; Dorothea, January 27, 1874 ; John, March 10, 1876 ; Emma, June 2, 1878 ; Heinrich, September 22, 1880.

WILLIAM F. SCHMIDT, farmer, was born near Breslau, Prussia, March 15, 1851. When five years of age his parents emigrated to America and settled at Hustisford, Dodge county, Wisconsin, where most of his education was received in the English common schools. He has always been a farmer, and owned a farm in Wisconsin several years. His marriage occurred December 8, 1873, the bride being Miss Theresa Ruehl, a native of the town of Hubbard, Dodge county, born May 15, 1853. On the year following his marriage he sold out his farm and came to Olmsted county. His first purchase was eighty acres of land, on section 26, and this has been his home from that time. The price paid was \$1,800, of which five-sixths

was put down in cash. The balance has been paid, buildings have been erected at a cost of \$3,000, and he has purchased eighty acres more of land, for which he paid \$2,000, and is now out of debt. Mr. Schmidt's good fortune is the result of his own industry and good management, seconded by his faithful spouse. Their children were born and christened as below: March 22, 1875, Ida; September 18, 1877, Minnie; November 15, 1880, Franklin. Mr. Schmidt is a believer after the German Evangelical faith; in politics is a democrat. He has been a school officer and town supervisor.

ANDREW J. DOTY, farmer, has resided on section 3, Eyota, since March 4, 1856, at which time he made claim to 160 acres here. He now retains one-half of the original claim, and also has a quarter-section near Athol, Dakota. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and independent in politics, with democratic preferences. His life in Minnesota has been a prosperous one on the whole, and he is the picture of health and strength. His height is 5 feet 7 $\frac{3}{4}$  inches; on September 10, 1883, he weighed 221 pounds, and lifted on the scales 1136 pounds. This was done at the fair in Rochester, and was equaled by no one. Mr. Doty has not seen a sick day in twenty-seven years, and easily shoulders a sack containing two and one-half bushels of wheat with one hand. Mr. Doty is a brother of H. E. Doty, whose parentage is elsewhere given. He was born in Seneca, Ontario county, New York, April 16, 1826. He was reared on a farm near Rochester, New York, and at twenty-one years of age set out to carve his own fortune. He spent some time on the Erie canal improvement, and on the construction of the Niagara railroad; was deputy collector of Port Genesee at Rochester two years. He was married on the first day of the year 1850, to Miss Sarah Bidwell. The great misfortune of his life was the insanity of his life-partner, who has been for the last four years an inmate of the insane hospital, at Rochester. Their daughters, Harriet A. and Ameila, are married, and reside at Waseca, the latter being the wife of John Dunn. George B., the son, resides with his father.

JAMES M. HALL, farmer, has been a resident of Olmsted county since June 15, 1857. For some years he kept a store at High Forest. In 1868 he settled on a farm in Marion, where he now resides. His domain includes 280 acres, and is finely improved. He has four acres of strawberries, and all kinds of fruit in abundance. Mr. Hall is a native of Wallingford, Connecticut, where his

ancestors had dwelt for at least three generations. The family is of English origin. Joshua Hall, father of this subject, was a son of Giles Hall. The mother of James Hall was christened Sophia Gates, and was a native of the same state. March 3, 1809, James M. Hall was born, and he is still young in appearance and spirits. Although he has passed through some severe experiences, he yet feels himself a boy, and continues to enjoy life. His life up to fourteen years of age was passed on the farm, and he received a fair common school education. He then went to live in gentlemen's families in New Haven. For a long time he was every day with Samuel F. Morse, who afterward invented the electric telegraph. From seventeen to twenty he was a peddler through New England. In 1837 he emigrated to Illinois, and landed in Peoria on April 17. He settled on a farm seventeen miles west of Peoria, where he dwelt many years. Here died on September 10, 1847, the wife to whom he was wedded February 13, 1831. Her maiden name was Catharine E. Street, and she was a native of Norwalk. She left two sons, Benjamin S. and Luther, who now reside in Kansas. In 1850 he went to Maquoketa, Iowa, where he was employed three years in a sawmill, and lost the first and fourth fingers of his left hand by accident. While here, he was married to Caroline Fessel, of Canton, a native of Westchester, Pennsylvania. This wedding occurred on July 8, 1851, and was quite a romantic one. In the then small mill settlement of Canton, there were over one hundred single men and only three or four unmarried ladies. A number of men stood guard with loaded guns and swore "that old widower" should not carry off one of their ladies. By the aid of a brother and married sister of his intended bride Mr. Hall succeeded in getting two hours' start, and the knot was tied at Maquoketa. Mr. Hall is a Methodist and a republican. Four of his children are with him. Their names are Charles, James M., Sheldon J. and Frank. The second is married, and lives on a farm near his father.

JAMES CRABB, deceased, was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, in 1803. His father was a farmer, and his life up to sixteen years of age was that of farmers' sons in those days. When sixteen he was apprenticed to a carpenter and builder, and followed this occupation till 1843. He married Hannah Saxton, who lived but six years after their marriage. On January 31, 1843, he was a second time married. The bride was Miss Lucinda C. Thompson, a native of Ethans county, Ohio, born in 1824. He then removed



to Decatur, Indiana, then a new region, where he kept a store for twelve years, being treasurer of Adams county one-half of that time. In 1855 he again became a pioneer, settling in this county. He pre-empted a claim on section 2, in Rochester township, on which he dwelt a year. The log cabin which he built there is still standing, being at the south end of Dakota street, in the city of Rochester; it has been covered with clapboards, and does not now present the appearance of a pioneer cabin. In this building was held the first religious service of the Methodist Episcopal church in the county, Deacon D. L. King, now a resident of Kalmar, preaching there in 1855. The congregation on this occasion consisted of Mr. and Mrs. Crabb, James Bucklen and wife, and Mrs. Barncard and child. In 1856 Mr. Crabb sold his Rochester property, and settled on a farm on section 7, Cascade, where he died September 2, 1864. He had a stroke of paralysis in 1859, from which he never fully recovered. His death took place while alone in the house, with the exception of two small children, whom he had previously put to bed, the other members of the family being absent at church. Mr. Crabb early became a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and was licensed to preach. He often acted as a local preacher. His wife became a member of the same organization after their marriage. She and two sons now reside on a farm on section 8, which was purchased since the death of the husband and father. Ten children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Crabb, of whom six grew to maturity. These are their names, births and whereabouts: Mary J., April 7, 1846, married David Bradley, Rochester; James T., November 2, 1848, died November 26, 1878; Burns A., June 4, 1851, married May Wirt, Mansfield, Dakota; Edwin P., March 27, 1856, here; Emma A., January 21, 1858, married William C. Miller, Minneapolis; John C., May 1, 1860, here.













